

EXERCISES
AT THE
CEREMONY OF UNVEILING THE STATUE
OF
JOHN MARSHALL,

MAY 10, 1884.

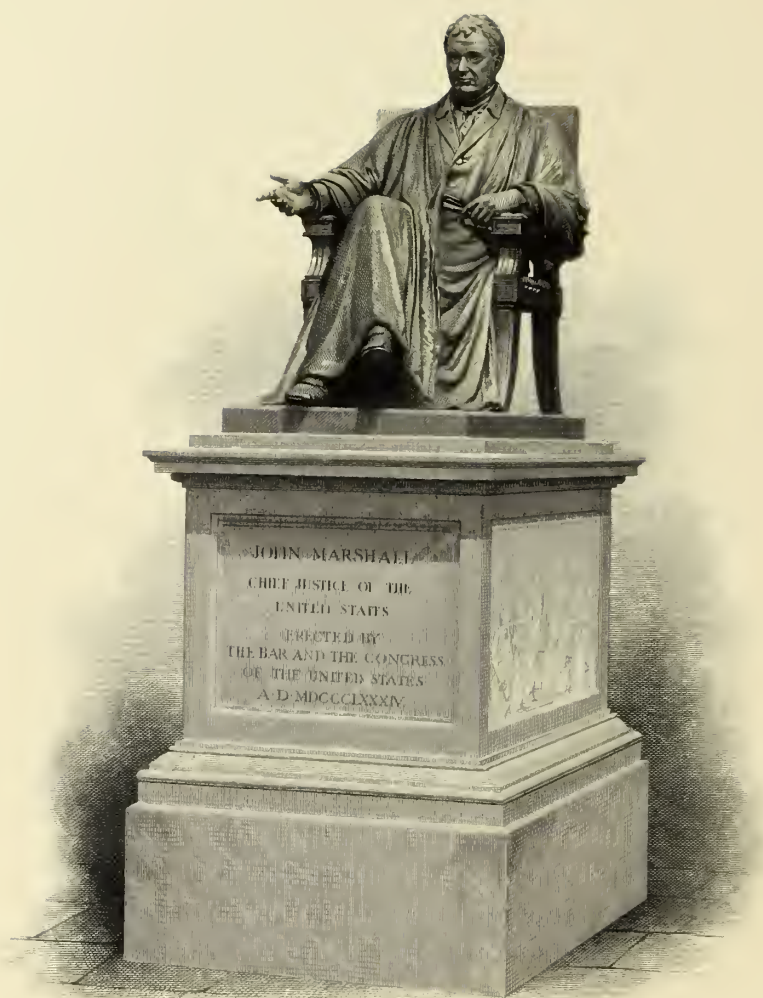
T. K. Skinner

Presented by Senator Vest
June 10th 1887.



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EXERCISES AT THE CEREMONY
OF
UNVEILING THE STATUE
OF
JOHN MARSHALL,
CHIEF JUSTICE OF THE UNITED STATES,
IN FRONT OF
THE CAPITOL, WASHINGTON,
MAY 10, 1884.

With the Address of Mr. CHIEF JUSTICE WAITE, and the
Oration of WILLIAM HENRY RAWLE, Esq., LL.D.

WITH THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE PHILADELPHIA BAR RELATING
TO THE MONUMENT TO CHIEF JUSTICE MARSHALL.

WASHINGTON:
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE.
1884.

AN ACT to authorize the erection of a
statue of Chief Justice MARSHALL.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House
of Representatives of the United States of
America in Congress assembled,* That the
President of the Senate and the Speaker
of the House of Representatives do ap-
point a joint committee of three Senators
and three Representatives, with authority
to contract for and erect a statue to the
memory of Chief Justice JOHN MARSHALL,
formerly of the Supreme Court of the
United States; that said statue shall be
placed in a suitable public reservation, to
be designated by said joint committee, in
the city of Washington; and for said pur-
pose the sum of twenty thousand dollars,
or so much thereof as may be necessary, is
hereby appropriated out of any money in
the Treasury not otherwise appropriated.

Approved March 10, 1882.

CEREMONIES
IN HONOR OF
CHIEF JUSTICE MARSHALL.

In pursuance of the foregoing act of Congress, the Joint Committee on the Library, in connection with the trustees of the Marshall Memorial Fund, contracted with and have received from the artist, W. W. Story, a bronze statue of JOHN MARSHALL, late Chief Justice of the United States.

It has been placed on the site selected, near the west front of the Capitol.

In accordance with separate resolutions of the two houses, the statue was, on the 10th of May, 1884, unveiled in the presence of both houses of Congress, the chief officers of the various Departments of the

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Government, the descendants of Chief Justice MARSHALL, and many citizens, with appropriate ceremonies, as follows :

Order of exercises at the unveiling of the statue of John Marshall, late Chief Justice of the United States.

ON SATURDAY, MAY 10, 1884.

MUSIC.

Marine Band.

PRAYER - - - - - *Rev. Dr. Armstrong.*

MUSIC.

ADDRESS - - - - - *The Chief Justice.*

MUSIC.

ORATION - - *William Henry Rawle, Esq.*

MUSIC.

BENEDICTION.

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By direction of the Joint Committee on the Library, Hon. John Sherman, chairman, introduced the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States as presiding officer.

The Rev. Dr. J. G. Armstrong, pastor of the Monumental Church, Richmond, Va., then delivered the following prayer:

O God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit! We adore Thee as the Father of all mankind, and of our Lord Jesus Christ, the centre and bond of the great brotherhood of man, in whom there is neither Jew nor Greek. We adore Thee as the answerer of prayer, who holdest in Thy grasp all the physical, intellectual, political, and moral forces of the world, and canst adjust and direct them to intelligent and beneficent ends. In this faith we pray to-day for Thy blessing upon our nation in all her governmental departments. Direct her

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legislators, in Congress and State legislatures, to the enactment of such laws as shall secure to all the people of the land their full constitutional rights, and as shall be in conformity to that higher law whose seat is the bosom of God, and whose voice the harmony of the world. May her judges, supreme and subordinate, interpret the laws under the lights of strict integrity and justice. And in the hands of her executives may the laws be administered irrespective of party or sectional interest, without partiality and without hypocrisy.

And we bless Thy name for all that Thou hast done for our nation. We bless Thee for her great men, for her warriors, her statesmen, her orators, her poets, and her men of science, come they from whatever quarter—North, South, East, or West—who have been such powerful factors in the production of the national character and reputation. And especially do we to-day

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bless Thee for the life of him whose statue is now to be unveiled, whom a nation honors, and whose memory a nation would cherish and perpetuate. May the example of his pure personal and juridic life stimulate the private citizen and the ermined judge to the faithful performance of duty and the emulation of his great virtues. And may Thy kingdom come and Thy will be done as in heaven so in our land, and so in all the earth, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with the Father and the Holy Spirit, ever One God, world without end. Amen.

Hon. Morrison R. Waite, Chief Justice of the United States, spoke as follows:

ADDRESS

BY

CHIEF JUSTICE WAITE.

Chief Justice MARSHALL died in Philadelphia on the 6th of July, 1835. The next day the bar of that city met and resolved "that it be recommended to the bar of the United States to co-operate in erecting a monument to his memory at some suitable place in the city of Washington." The committee charged with the duty of carrying this recommendation into effect were Mr. Duponceau, Mr. Binney, Mr. Sergeant, Mr. Chauncey, and Mr. J. R. Ingersoll. A few days later the bar of the city of New York appointed Mr. S. P. Staples, Mr. R. M. Blatchford, Mr. Beverley Robinson, Mr. Hugh Maxwell, and Mr. George Griffin to represent them in the work which had thus

been inaugurated. Undoubtedly there were similar organizations in other localities, but the publications of the day, to which access has been had, contain no notice of them. The Philadelphia committee, "desiring to make the subscriptions as extensive as possible, and to avoid inconvenience to those who may be willing to unite with them," expressed the wish "that individual subscriptions should be moderate, and that the required amount may be made up by the number of contributions, rather than the magnitude of particular donations, so that the monument may truly be the work of the bar of the United States, and an enduring evidence of their veneration for the memory of the illustrious deceased." Accordingly, in Philadelphia no more than ten dollars was received from any one member, and the committees of other localities were advised of the adoption of this regulation. In this

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way the sum of three thousand dollars was collected, and then the subscriptions stopped. Not so, however, the work of the Philadelphia committee—or, as I prefer to call them, the Philadelphia trustees—for a few years ago the last survivor of them brought out their package of securities, and it was shown that under their careful and judicious management the \$3,000 of 1835 had grown in 1880 to be almost \$20,000.

At this time it was thought something might be done by the bar alone to carry out, in an appropriate way, the original design; but Congress, in order that the nation might join the bar in honoring the memory of the great man to whom so much was due, added another \$20,000 to the lawyers' fund, and to-day Congress as well as the bar has asked you here to witness the unveiling of a monument which has been erected under these circumstances.

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For twenty-four years there sat with the Chief Justice on the bench of the Supreme Court one whose name is largely associated with his own in the judicial history of the times. I need hardly say I refer to Mr. Justice Story. Fortunately a son of his, once a lawyer himself, had won distinction in the world of art, and so it was specially fit that he should be employed, as he was, to develop in bronze the form of one he had from his earliest childhood been taught to love and to revere. How faithfully and how appropriately he has performed his task you will soon be permitted to see.

But, before this is done, let me say a few words of him we now commemorate. Mr. Justice Story, in an address delivered on the occasion of his death, speaks "of those exquisite judgments, the fruits of his own unassisted meditations, from which the court has received so much honor," and I

have sometimes thought even the bar of the country hardly realizes to what extent he was, in some respects, unassisted. He was appointed Chief Justice in January, 1801, and took his seat on the bench at the following February term. The court had then been in existence but eleven years, and in that time less than one hundred cases had passed under its judgment. The engrossed minutes of its doings cover only a little more than two hundred pages of one of the volumes of its records, and its reported decisions fill but five hundred pages of three volumes of the reports published by Mr. Dallas. The courts of the several colonies before the Revolution, and of the States afterwards, had done all that was required of them, and yet the volumes of their decisions published before 1801 can be counted on little more than the fingers of a single hand, and if these and all the cases decided before that

time, which have been reported since, were put into volumes of the size now issued by the reporter of the Supreme Court, it would not require the fingers of both the hands for their full enumeration. The reported decisions of all the circuit and district courts of the United States were put into a little more than two hundred pages of Dallas.

In this condition of the jurisprudence of the country MARSHALL took his place at the head of the national judiciary. The Government, under the Constitution, was only organized twelve years before, and in the interval eleven amendments of the Constitution had been regularly proposed and adopted. Comparatively nothing had been done judicially to define the powers or develop the resources of the Constitution. The common law of the mother country had been either silently or by express enactment adopted as the founda-

tion of the system by which the rights of persons and property were to be determined, but scarcely anything had been done by the courts to adapt it to the new form of government, or to the new relations of social life which a successful revolution had produced. In short, the nation, the Constitution, and the laws were in their infancy. Under these circumstances it was most fortunate for the country that the great Chief Justice retained his high position for thirty-four years, and that during all that time, with scarcely any interruption, he kept on with the work he showed himself so competent to perform. As year after year went by and new occasion required, with his irresistible logic, enforced by his cogent English, he developed the hidden treasures of the Constitution, demonstrated its capacities, and showed beyond all possibility of doubt that a government rightfully administered under

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its authority could protect itself against itself and against the world. He kept himself at the front on all questions of constitutional law, and, consequently, his master hand is seen in every case which involved that subject. At the same time he and his co-workers, whose names are, some of them, almost as familiar as his own, were engaged in laying, deep and strong, the foundations on which the jurisprudence of the country has since been built. Hardly a day now passes in the court he so dignified and adorned without reference to some decision of his time as establishing a principle which, from that day to this, has been accepted as undoubted law.

It is not strange that this is so. Great as he was, he was made greater by those about him, and the events in the midst of which he lived. He sat with Paterson, with Bushrod Washington, with William

Johnson, with Livingston, with Story, and with Thompson, and there came before him Webster and Pinkney and Wirt and Dexter and Sergeant and Binney and Martin, and many others equally illustrious, who then made up the bar of the Supreme Court. He was a giant among giants. Abundance of time was taken for consideration. Judgments, when announced, were the result of deliberate thought and patient investigation, and opinions were never filed until they had been prepared with the greatest care. The first volume of Cranch's Reports embraces the work of two full years, and all the opinions save one are from the pen of the Chief Justice. Twenty-five cases only are reported, but among them is *Marbury v. Madison*, in which, for the first time, it was announced by the Supreme Court that it was the duty of the judiciary to declare an act of the legislative

department of the Government invalid if clearly repugnant to the Constitution.

After this came, in quick succession, all the various questions of constitutional, international, and general law which would naturally present themselves for judicial determination in a new and rapidly developing country. The complications growing out of the wars in Europe, and of our own war with Great Britain, brought up their disputes for settlement, and the boundary line between the powers of the States and of the United States had more than once to be run and marked. The authority of the United States was extended by treaty over territory not originally within its jurisdiction. All these involved the consideration of subjects comparatively new in the domain of the law, and rights were to be settled, not on authorities alone, but by the application of the principles of right reason. Here the

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Chief Justice was at home, and when, at the end of his long and eminent career he laid down his life, he, and those who had so ably assisted him in his great work, had the right to say that the judicial power of the United States had been carefully preserved and wisely administered. The nation can never honor him, or them, too much for the work they accomplished.

Without detaining you longer, I ask you to look upon what is hereafter to represent, at the seat of government, the reverence of the Congress and the bar of the United States for JOHN MARSHALL, "The Expounder of the Constitution."

William Henry Rawle, Esq., of Philadelphia, then delivered the following oration:

ORATION.

JOHN MARSHALL, Chief Justice of the United States, has been dead for nearly half a century, and if it be asked why at this late day we have come together to do tardy justice to his memory and unveil this statue in his honor, the answer may be given in a few words. The history dates from his death. He had held his last Court, and had come northward to seek medical aid in the city of Philadelphia, and there, on the 6th of July, 1835, he died. While tributes of respect for the man and of grief for the national loss were paid throughout the country, it was felt by the Bar of the city where he died that a lasting monument should be erected to his memory in the capital of the nation. To this end subscriptions, limited in amount, were asked. About half came from the Bar of Philadelphia, and of the rest, the largest

contribution was from the city of Richmond, but all told, the sum was utterly insufficient. What money there was, was invested by trustees as "THE MARSHALL MEMORIAL FUND," and then the matter seemed to pass out of men's minds. Nearly fifty years went on. Another generation and still another came into the world, till lately, on the death of the survivor of the trustees, himself an old man, the late Peter McCall, the almost forgotten fund was found to have been increased, by honest stewardship, seven-fold. Of the original subscribers but six were known to be alive, and upon their application trustees were appointed to apply the fund to its original purpose. It happened that at this time the Forty-seventh Congress appropriated of the people's money a sum about equal in amount for the erection of a statue to the memory of Chief Justice MARSHALL, to be "placed in a suitable

public reservation in the city of Washington." To serve their common purpose, the Congressional committee and the trustees agreed to unite in the erection of a statue and pedestal; and after much thought and care the commission was intrusted to William W. Story, an artist who brought to the task not only his acknowledged genius, but a keen desire to perpetuate through the work of his hands the face and form of one who had been not only his father's professional brother but the object of his chiefest respect and admiration. That work now stands before you. Its pedestal bears the simple inscription:—

JOHN MARSHALL
CHIEF JUSTICE OF THE UNITED STATES
ERECTED BY
THE BAR AND THE CONGRESS
OF THE UNITED STATES
A. D. MDCCCLXXXIV.

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No more "suitable public reservation" could be found than the ground on which we stand, almost within the shadow of the Capitol in which for more than thirty years he held the highest judicial position in the country.

It may well be that the even tenor of his judicial life has driven from some minds the story of his brilliant and eventful youth. The same simplicity, the same modesty which marked the child distinguished the great Chief Justice, but, as a judge, his life was necessarily one of thought and study, of enforced retirement from much of the busy world, dealing more with results than processes; and the surges of faction and of passion, the heat of ambition, the thirst of power, reached him not in his high judicial station. Yet he had himself been a busy actor on the scenes of life, and if his later days seemed colorless, the story of his earlier years is full of charm.

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The eldest of a large family, reared in Fauquier County, in Virginia, he was one of the tenderest, the most lovable of children. (He had never, said his father, seriously displeased him in his life.) To his mother, to his sisters especially, did he bear that chivalrous devotion which to the last hour of his life he showed to women. Such education as came to him was little got from schools, for the thinly-settled country and his father's limited means forbade this. A year's Latin at fourteen at a school a hundred miles from his home, and another year's Latin at home with the rector of the parish was the sum of his classical teaching. What else of it he learned was with the unsympathetic aid of grammar and dictionary. But his father—who, MARSHALL was wont to say, was a far abler man than any of his sons, and who in early life was Washington's companion as a land surveyor, and, later,

fought gallantly under him—his father was well read in English literature, and loved to open its treasures to the quick, receptive mind of his eldest child, who in it all, especially in history and still more in poetry, found an enduring delight. Much of his time was passed in the open air, among the hills and valleys of that beautiful country, and thus it was that in active exercise, in day dreams of heroism and poetry, in rapid and eager mastery of such learning as came within his reach, and surrounded by the tender love, the idolatry of a happy family, his earlier days were passed.

The first note of war that rang through the land called him to arms, and from 1775, when was his first battle on the soil of his own State, until the end of 1779, he was in the army. Through the battles of Iron Hill, of Brandywine, of Germantown and of Monmouth, he bore himself bravely, and

through the dreary privations, the hunger and the nakedness of that ghastly winter at Valley Forge, his patient endurance and his cheeriness bespoke the very sweetest temper that ever man was blessed with. So long as any lived to speak, men would tell how he was loved by the soldiers and by his brother officers; how he was the arbiter of their differences and the composer of their disputes, and when called to act, as he often was, as judge advocate, he exercised that peculiar and delicate judgment required of him who is not only the prosecutor but the protector of the accused. It was in the duties of this office that he first met and came to know well the two men whom of all others on earth he most admired and loved, and whose impress he bore through his life, Washington and Hamilton.

While of MARSHALL'S life war was but the brief opening episode, yet before we

leave these days, one part of them has a peculiar charm. There were more officers than were needed, and he had come back to his home. His letters from camp had been read with delight by his sisters and his sisters' friends. His reputation as a soldier had preceded him, and the daughters of Virginia, then, as ever, ready to welcome those who do service to the State, greeted him with their sweetest smiles. One of these was a shy, diffident girl of fourteen; and to the amazement of all, and perhaps to her own, from that time his devotion to her knew no variableness neither shadow of turning. She afterwards became his wife, and for fifty years, in sickness and in health, he loved and cherished her till, as he himself said, "her sainted spirit fled from the sufferings of life." When her release came at last, he mourned her as he had loved her, and the years were few before he followed her to the grave.

But from this happy home he tore himself away, and at the College of William and Mary attended a course of law lectures and in due time was admitted to practice. But practice there was none, for Arnold had then invaded Virginia, and it was literally true that *inter arma silent leges*. To resist the invasion, MARSHALL returned to the army, and at its end, there being still a redundancy of officers in the Virginia line, he resigned his commission and again took up his studies. With the return of peace the courts were opened and his career at the bar began. Tradition tells how even at that early day his characteristic traits began to show themselves—his simple, quiet bearing, his frankness and candor, his marvellous grasp of principle, his power of clear statement and his logical reasoning. It is pleasant to know that his rapid rise excited no envy among his associates, for his other high qualities

were exceeded by his modesty. In after life this modesty was wont to attribute his success to the "too partial regard of his former companions-in-arms, who, at the end of the war, had returned to their families and were scattered over the States." But the cause was in himself, and not in his friends.

In the spring of 1782 he was elected to the State legislature, and in the autumn chosen to the Executive Council. In the next year took place his happy marriage, his removal to Richmond, thenceforth his home, and soon after, his retirement, as he supposed, from public life. But this was not to be, for his election again and again to the legislature called on him for service which he was too patriotic to withhold, even had he felt less keenly how full of trouble were the times. MARSHALL threw himself, heart and soul, into the great questions which bade fair to destroy by dissension

what had been won by arms, and opposed to the best talent of his own State, he ranged himself with an unpopular minority. In measured words, years later, when he wrote the life of Washington, he defined the issue which then threatened to tear the country asunder. It was, he said, "divided into two great political parties, the one of which contemplated America as a nation, and labored incessantly to invest the Federal head with powers competent to the preservation of the Union. The other attached itself to the State government, viewed all the powers of Congress with jealousy, and assented reluctantly to measures which would enable the head to act in any respect independently of the members." Though the proposed Constitution might form, as its preamble declares, "a more perfect union" than had the Articles of Confederation; though it might prevent anarchy and save the States from

becoming secret or open enemies of each other; though it might replace "a Government depending upon thirteen distinct sovereignties for the preservation of the public faith" by one whose power might regulate and control them all—the more numerous and powerful, and certainly the more clamorous party insisted that such evils, and evils worse than these, were as nothing compared to the surrender of State independence to Federal sovereignty. In public and private, in popular meetings, in legislatures and in conventions, on both sides passion was mingled with argument. Notably in MARSHALL'S own State did many of her ablest sons, then and afterwards most dear to her, throw all that they had of courage, of high character and of patriotism, into the attempt to save the young country from its threatened yoke of despotism. Equally brave and able were those few who led the other party,

and chief among them were Washington, Madison, Randolph and, later, MARSHALL. Young as he was, it was felt that such a man could not be left out of the State convention to which the Constitution was to be submitted, but he was warned by his best friends that unless he should pledge himself to oppose it his defeat was certain. He said plainly that, if elected, he should be "a determined advocate for its adoption," and his integrity and fearlessness overcame even the prejudices of his constituents. And in that memorable debate, which lasted five-and-twenty days, though with his usual modesty he contented himself with supporting the lead of Madison, three times he came to the front, and to the questions of the power of taxation, the power over the militia and the power of the judiciary, he brought the full force of his fast developing strength. The contest was severe and the vote close. The Con-

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stitution was ratified by a majority of only ten. But as to MARSHALL, it has been truly said that "in sustaining the Constitution, he unconsciously prepared for his own glory the imperishable connection which his name now has with its principles." And again his modesty would have it that he builded better than he knew, for in later times he would ascribe the course which he took to casual circumstances as much as to judgment; he had early, he said, caught up the words, "United we stand, divided we fall"; the feelings they inspired became a part of his being; he carried them into the army where, associating with brave men from different States who were risking life and all else in a common cause, he was confirmed in the habit of considering America as his country, and Congress as his Government.

The convention was held in 1788. Again MARSHALL was sent to the legislature,

where in power of logical debate he confessedly led the House, until in 1792 he left it finally.

During the next five years he was at the height of his professional reputation. The Federal reports and those of his own State show that among a Bar distinguished almost beyond all others, he was engaged in most of the important cases of the time. A few of these he has reported himself; they are modestly inserted at the end of the volume, and are referred to by the reporter as contributed "by a gentleman high in practice at the time, and by whose permission they are now published."

And here a word must be said as to the nature and extent of his technical learning, for it is almost without parallel that one should admittedly have held the highest position at the Bar, and then for thirty-five years should, as admittedly, have held the reputation of a great judge, when the en-

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tire time between the very commencement of his studies and his relinquishment of practice was less than seventeen years. In that generation of lawyers and the generation which succeeded them, it was not unusual that more than half that time passed before they had either a cause or a client. MARSHALL had emphatically what is called a legal mind; his marvellous instinct as to what the law *ought* to be doubtless saved him much labor which was necessary to those less intellectually great. With the principles of the science he was of course familiar; with their sources he was scarcely less so. A century ago there was less law to be learned and men learned it more completely. Except as to such addition as has of late years come to us from the civil law, the foundation of it was the same as now—the same common law, the same decisions, the same statutes—and in that day, a century's separation from the mother coun-

try had wrought little change in the colonies except to adapt this law to their local needs with marvellous skill. Save as to this, the law of the one country was the law of the other, and the decisions at Westminster Hall before the Revolution were of as much authority here as there. There was not a single published volume of American reports. The enormous superstructure which has since been raised upon the same foundation, bewildering from its height, the number of its stories, the vast number of its chambers, the intricacies of its passages, has been a necessity from the growth of a country rapid beyond precedent in a century to which history knows no parallel. But the foundation of it was the same, and the men of the last century had not far to go beyond the foundation, and hence their technical learning was, as to some at least, more complete, if not more profound. There were a few

who said that MARSHALL was never what is called a thoroughly technical lawyer. If by this is meant that he never mistook the grooves and ruts of the law for the law itself—that he looked at the law from above and not from below, and did not cite precedent where citation was not necessary—the remark might have semblance of truth, but the same might be said of his noted abstinence from illustration and analogy, both of which he could, upon occasion, call in aid; but no one can read those arguments at the Bar or judgments on the bench in which he thought it needful to establish his propositions by technical precedents, without feeling that he possessed as well the knowledge of their existence and the reason of their existence, as the power to analyze them. But he never mistook the means for the end.

Even in the height of his prosperous labor he never turned his back upon pub-

lic duty. Not all the excesses of the French revolution could make the mass of Americans forget that France had been our ally in the war with England, and when, in 1793, these nations took arms against each other, and our proclamation of neutrality was issued to the world, loud and deep were the curses that rang through the land. Hated as the proclamation was, MARSHALL had no doubt of its wisdom. Great was his grief to oppose himself to the judgment of Madison, but he was content to share the odium heaped upon Hamilton and Washington, and to be denounced as an aristocrat, a loyalist and an enemy to republicanism. With rare courage, at a public meeting at Richmond he defended the wisdom and policy of the administration, and his argument as to the Constitutionality of the proclamation anticipated the judgment of the world.

Two years later came a severer trial.

Without his knowledge and against his will, MARSHALL had been again elected to the legislature. Our minister to Great Britain had concluded a commercial treaty with that power, and its ratification had been advised by the Senate and acted on by the President. The indignation of the people knew no bounds. In no State was it greater than in Virginia. The treaty was "insulting to the dignity, injurious to the interests, dangerous to the security and repugnant to the Constitution of the United States"—so said the resolutions of a remarkable meeting at Richmond, and these words echoed through the country. Had not the Constitution given to Congress the right to regulate commerce, and how dared the Executive, without Congress, negotiate a treaty of commerce? MARSHALL's friends begged him, for his own sake, not to stem the popular torrent. He hoped at first that his own legislature might, as he wrote to

Hamilton from Richmond, "ultimately consult the interest or honor of the nation. But now," he went on to say, "when all hope of this had vanished, it was deemed advisable to make the experiment, however hazardous it might be. A meeting was called which was more numerous than I have ever seen at this place; and after a very ardent and zealous discussion, which consumed the day, a decided majority declared in favor of a resolution that the welfare and honor of the nation required us to give full effect to the treaty negotiated with Britain." Thus measuredly he told the story of one of his greatest triumphs, and afterwards, in his place in the House, he again met the Constitutional objection in a speech which, men said at the time, was even stronger than the other. As he spoke, reason asserted her sway over passion, party feeling gave way to conviction, and for once the vote of the House was

turned. Of this speech no recorded trace remains, but even in that time, when news travelled slowly, its fame spread abroad, and the subsequent conduct of every administration has to this day rested upon the construction then given to the Constitution by MARSHALL.

Henceforth his reputation became national, and when, a few months later, he came to Philadelphia to argue the great case of the confiscation by Virginia of the British debts, a contemporary said of him, "Speaking, as he always does, to the judgment merely, and for the simple purpose of convincing, he was justly pronounced one of the greatest men in the country." He were less than human not to be moved by this, but, in writing to a friend, he modestly said, "A Virginian who supported with any sort of reputation the measures of the Government was such a *rara avis* that I was received with a degree of kind-

ness which I had not anticipated." Soon after, Washington offered him the position of Attorney-General, and some months later, the mission to France. Both he declined. His determination to remain at the Bar, was, he thought, unalterable.

And again he altered it. Our relations with France had drifted from friendship to coolness, and from coolness to almost war. Neither France herself nor the "French patriots" here had forgotten or forgiven the treaty with Great Britain, and if the disgust at our persistent neutrality did not break into open war, it was because France knew, or thought she knew, that the entire American opposition to the Government was on her side. Just short of war she stopped. Privateers fitted out by orders of the French minister here preyed upon our commerce; the very ship which brought him to our shores began to capture our vessels before even his credentials had

been presented; later, by order of the Directory, he suspended his diplomatic functions here and flung to our people turgid words of bitterness as he left; the minister whom we had sent to France when MARSHALL had declined to go, was not only not received, but was ordered out of the country and threatened with the police. The crisis required the greatest wisdom and firmness which the country could command. Mr. Adams was then President; he never lacked firmness, and his words to Congress at its special session were full of fearless dignity. "Three envoys," said he, "persons of talents and integrity, long known and intrusted in the three great divisions of the Union," were to be sent to France, and MARSHALL was to be one of them. It went hard with him, but the struggle was short, and as he left his home at Richmond crowds of citizens attended him for miles, and all party feel-

ing was merged in respect and affection. The issue of his errand belongs to history. He has himself told us, in his *Life of Washington*, how the envoys—his own name being characteristically withheld—were met by contumely and insult; how the wiliest minister of the age suggested that a large sum of money must be paid to the Directory as a mere preliminary to negotiation; how, if they refused, it would be known at home that they were corrupted by British influence, and how insults and menaces were borne with equal dignity. But he has not told us that his were the two letters to Talleyrand which have justly been regarded as among the ablest State papers in diplomacy. They were unanswerable, and nothing remained but to get MARSHALL and one of his colleagues out of the country with as little delay as was consistent with additional marks of contempt. His return showed that republics

are not always ungrateful, for there came out to him on his arrival a crowd even greater than that which had witnessed his departure, the Secretary of State and other officials among them, and at a celebration in his honor the phrase was coined which afterwards became national, "Millions for defense, but not one cent for tribute."

Now, surely, he had earned the right to return to his loved professional labor. Nor only this—he had earned the right to such honor as the dignified labor of high judicial station could alone afford. The position of Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States had fallen vacant, and the President's choice rested on MARSHALL. "He has raised the American people in their own esteem," wrote Mr. Adams to the Secretary of State, "and if the influence of truth and justice, reason and argument, is not lost in Europe, he has raised the consideration of the United

States in that quarter." But again there had come to him the call of duty. For Washington, who, in view of the expected war with France, had been appointed to command the army, had begged MARSHALL to come to him at Mount Vernon, and there in earnest talk for days dwelt upon the importance to the country that he should be returned to Congress. His reluctance was great not only to re-enter public life, but to throw himself into a contest sure to be marked with an intensity of public excitement, degenerating into private calumny. If Washington himself had not escaped this, how should he?

The canvass began. In the midst of it came the offer of the repose and dignity of the Supreme Bench. But his word had been given and he at once declined. The contest was severe, his majority was small, and his election, though intensely grateful to Washington and those who thought

with him, was met with many misgivings from some who thought him "too much disposed to govern the world according to rules of logic."

His first act in Congress was to announce the death of Washington, and the words of the resolutions which he then presented, though written by another, meet our eyes on every hand, "First in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his countrymen." It was like MARSHALL that when later he came to write the life of Washington, he should have said that the resolutions were presented by "a member of the House."

In that House—the last Congress that sat in Philadelphia—he met the ablest men of the country. New member as he was, when the debate involved questions of law or the Constitution he was confessedly the first man in it. His speech on the question of Nash's surrender is said to be the

only one ever revised by him, and, as it stands, is a model of parliamentary argument. The President had advised the surrender of the prisoner to the English Government to answer a charge of murder on the high seas on board a British man-of-war. Popular outcry insisted that the prisoner was an American, unlawfully impressed, and that the death was caused in his attempt to regain his freedom; and though this was untrue, it was urged that as the case involved principles of law, the question of surrender was one for judicial and not Executive decision. In most of its aspects the subject was confessedly new, but it was exhausted by MARSHALL. Not every case, he showed, which involves principles of law necessarily came before the courts; the parties here were two nations, who could not litigate their claims; the demand was not a case for judicial cognizance; the treaty under which

the surrender was made was a law enjoining the performance of a particular object; the department to perform it was the Executive, who, under the Constitution, was to "take care that the laws be faithfully executed"; and even if Congress had not yet prescribed the particular mode by which this was to be done, it was not the less the duty of the Executive to execute it by any means it then possessed.

There was no answer to this, worthy the name; the member selected to answer it sat silent; the resolutions against the erection were lost, and thus the power was lodged where it should belong, and an unwelcome and inappropriate jurisdiction diverted from the judiciary.

The session was just over when, in May, the President, without consulting MARSHALL, appointed him Secretary of War. He wrote to decline. As part of the well-known disruption of the Cabinet the office

of Secretary of State became vacant, and MARSHALL was appointed to and accepted it. During his short tenure of office, an occasion arose for the display of his best powers, in his dispatch to our minister to England concerning questions of great moment under our treaty, of contraband, blockade, impressment, and compensation to British subjects, a State paper not surpassed by any in the archives of that Department.

The autumn of 1800 witnessed the defeat of Mr. Adams for the Presidency and the resignation of Chief Justice Ellsworth, and, at MARSHALL'S suggestion, Chief Justice Jay was invited to return to his former position, but declined. On being again consulted, MARSHALL urged the appointment of Mr. Justice Paterson, then on the Supreme Bench. Some said that the vacant office might possibly be filled by the President himself after the 3d of

March, but Mr. Adams disclaimed the idea. "I have already," wrote he, "by the nomination to this office of a gentleman in full vigor of middle life, in the full habits of business, and whose reading in the science of law is fresh in his head, put it wholly out of my power, and indeed it never was in my hopes and wishes;" and on the 31st of January, 1801, the President requested the Secretary of War "to execute the office of Secretary of State so far as to affix the seal of the United States to the inclosed commission to the present Secretary of State, JOHN MARSHALL of Virginia, to be Chief Justice of the United States." He was then forty-six years old.

It is difficult for the present generation to appreciate the contrast between the Supreme Court to which MARSHALL came and the Supreme Court as he left it; the contrast is scarcely less between the Court as he left it and the Court of to-day. For

the first time in the history of the world had a written constitution become an organic law of government; for the first time was such an instrument to be submitted to judgment. With admirable force Mr. Gladstone has said, "As the British Constitution is the most subtile organism which has proceeded from progressive history, so the American Constitution is the most wonderful work ever struck off at a given time by the brain and purpose of man." On that subtile and unwritten Constitution of England, the professional training of every older lawyer in the country had been based, and they had learned from it that the power of Parliament was above and beyond the judgments of any court in the realm. Though this American Constitution declared in so many words that the judicial power should extend to "all cases arising under the Constitution and the laws of the United

States," yet it was difficult for men so trained to conceive how any law which the Legislative department might pass and the Executive approve could be set aside by the mere judgment of a court. There was no precedent for it in ancient or modern history. Hence when first this question was suggested in a Federal court, it was received with grave misgiving; the general principles of the Constitution were not, it was said, to be regarded as rules to fetter and control, but as matter merely declaratory and directory; and even if legislative acts directly contrary to it *should* be void, whose was the power to declare them so?

Equally without precedent was every other question. Those who, in their places as legislators, had fought the battle of State sovereignty, were ready to urge in the courts of justice that the Federal Government could claim no powers that had not been delegated to it *in ipsissimis*

verbis. If delegated at all, they were to be contracted by construction within the narrowest limits. Whether the right of Congress to pass all laws "necessary and proper" for the Federal Government was not restricted to such as were indispensable to that end; whether the right of taxation could be exercised by a State against creations of the Federal Government; whether a Federal court could revise the judgment of a State court in a case arising under the Constitution and laws of the United States; whether the officers of the Federal Government could be protected against State interference; how far extended the power of Congress to regulate commerce within the States; how far to regulate foreign commerce as against State enactment; how far extended the prohibition to the States against emitting bills of credit—these and like questions were absolutely without precedent.

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It is not too much to say that but for MARSHALL such questions could hardly have been solved as they were. There have been great judges before and since, but none had ever such opportunity, and none ever seized and improved it as he did. For, as was said by our late President, "He found the Constitution paper, and he made it power; he found it a skeleton, and clothed it with flesh and blood." Not in a few feeble words at such a time as this can be told how, with easy power he grasped the momentous questions as they arose; how his great statesmanship lifted them to a high plane; how his own clear vision pierced clouds which caused others to see as through a glass darkly, and how all that his wisdom could conceive and his reason could prove was backed by a judicial courage unequalled in history.

It may be doubted whether, great as is

his reputation, full justice has yet been done him. In his interpretation of the law, the premises seem so undeniable, the reasoning so logical, the conclusions so irresistible, that men are wont to wonder that there had ever been any question at all.

A single instance—the first which arose—may tell its own story. Congress had given to his own court a jurisdiction not within the range of its powers under the Constitution. If it could lawfully do this, the case before the court was plain. Whether it could, said the court, in MARSHALL'S words, "Whether an act repugnant to the Constitution can become the law of the land, is a question deeply interesting to the United States, but, happily, not of an intricacy proportioned to its interest;" and in these few words was the demonstration made: "It is a proposition too plain to be contested, that the

Constitution controls any legislative act repugnant to it, or that the legislature can alter the Constitution by an ordinary act. Between these alternatives there is no middle ground. The Constitution is either a superior paramount law, unchangeable by ordinary means, or it is on a level with ordinary legislative acts, and, like other acts, is alterable when the legislature shall please to alter it. If the former part of the alternative be true, then a legislative act contrary to the Constitution is not law; if the latter part be true, then written constitutions are absurd attempts on the part of the people to limit a power in its own nature illimitable."

Here was established one of the great foundation principles of the Government, and then in a few sentences, and for the first time, was clearly and tersely stated the theory of the Constitution as to the separate powers of the Legislature and the

Judiciary. If, he said, its theory was that an act of the Legislature repugnant to it was void, such an act could not bind the courts and oblige them to give it effect. This would be to overthrow in fact what was established in theory. It was of the very essence of judicial duty to expound and interpret the law; to determine which of two conflicting laws should prevail. When a law came in conflict with the Constitution, the judicial department must decide between them. Otherwise, the courts must close their eyes on the Constitution, which they were sworn to support, and see only the law.

The exposition thus begun was continued for more than thirty years, and in a series of judgments, contained in many volumes, is to be found the basis of what is to-day the constitutional law of this country. Were it possible, it would be inappropriate to follow here, with what-

ever profit, the processes by which this great work was done. The least approach to technical analysis would demand a statement of the successive questions as they arose, each fraught with the history of the time and each suggesting illustrations and analogies which subsequent time has developed. It may have been that could MARSHALL have foreseen the extent to which, in some instances, his conclusions could be carried, in the uncertain future and under such wholly changed circumstances as no man could then conjecture, he would possibly have qualified or limited their application; but the marvel is, that of all he wrought in the field of constitutional labor there is so little that admits of even question.

But besides this, there was much more. It has been truly said of him that he would have been a great judge at any time and in any country. Great in the

sense in which Nottingham and Hardwicke as to equity were great; in which Mansfield as to commercial law and Stowell as to admiralty were great—great in that, with little precedent to guide them, they produced a system with which the wisdom of succeeding generations has found little fault and has little changed. In MARSHALL'S court there was little precedent by which to determine the rights of the Indian tribes over the land which had once been theirs, or their rights as nations against the States in which they dwelt; there was little precedent when, beyond the seas, the heat of war had produced the British Orders in Council and the retaliatory Berlin and Milan Decrees; when the conflicting rights of neutrals and belligerents, of captors and claimants, of those trading under the flag of peace and those privateering under letters of marque and reprisal; when the effect of the judg-

ments of foreign tribunals; when the jurisdiction of the sovereign upon the high seas—when these and similar questions arose, there was little precedent for their solution, and they had to be considered upon broad and general principles of jurisprudence, and the result has been a code for future time.

Passing from this, a word must be said as to his judicial conduct when sitting apart from his brethren in his Circuit Courts. Especially when presiding over trials by jury his best personal characteristics were shown. The dignity, maintained without effort, which forbade the possibility of unseemly difference, the quick comprehension, the unfailing patience, the prompt ruling, the serene impartiality, and, when required, the most absolute courage and independence, made up as nearly perfect a judge at Nisi Prius as the world has ever known.

One instance only can be noticed here. The story of Aaron Burr, with all its reality and all its romance, must always, spite of much that is repugnant, fascinate both young and old. When, in a phase of his varied life, he who had been noted, if not famous, as a soldier, as a lawyer, as an orator, who had won the reason of men and charmed the hearts of women, who had held the high office of Vice-President of the United States, and whose hands were red with the blood of Hamilton—when he found himself on trial for his life upon the charge of high treason, before a judge who was Hamilton's dear friend and a jury chosen with difficulty from an excited people, what wonder that, like Cain, he felt himself singled out from his fellows, and, coming between his counsel and the court, exclaimed: "Would to God that I did stand on the same ground with any other man!" And yet the impartiality

which marked the conduct of those trials was never excelled in history. By the law of our mother country to have only compassed and imagined the government's subversion was treason; but, according to our Constitution, "treason against the United States shall consist only in levying war against them, or in adhering to their enemies, giving them aid and comfort," and can it be, said MARSHALL, that the landing of a few men, however desperate and however intent to overthrow the government of a State, was a levying of war? It might be a conspiracy, but it was not treason within the Constitution—and Burr's accomplices were discharged of their high crime. And upon his own memorable trial—that strange scene in which these men, the prisoner and the judge, each so striking in appearance, were confronted, and as people said, "two such pairs of eyes had never looked into one

- another before"—upon that trial the scales of justice were held with absolutely even hand. No greater display of judicial skill and judicial rectitude was ever witnessed. No more effective dignity ever added weight to judicial language. Outside the court and through the country it was cried that "the people of America demanded a conviction," and within it all the pressure which counsel dared to borrow was exerted to this end. It could hardly be passed by. "That this court dares not usurp power, is most true," began the last lines of MARSHALL'S charge to the jury. "That this court dares not shrink from its duty, is not less true. No man is desirous of becoming the peculiar subject of calumny. No man, might he let the bitter cup pass from him without self-reproach, would drain it to the bottom. But if he have no choice in the case, if there be no alternative presented to him but a

dereliction of duty or the opprobrium of those who are denominated the world, he merits the contempt as well as the indignation of his country, who can hesitate which to embrace." That counsel should, he said, be impatient at any deliberation of the court, and suspect or fear the operation of motives to which alone they could ascribe that deliberation, was perhaps a frailty incident to human nature, "but if any conduct could warrant a sentiment that it would deviate to the one side or the other from the line prescribed by duty and by law, that conduct would be viewed by the judges themselves with an eye of extreme severity, and would long be recollected with deep and serious regrets."

The result was acquittal, and as was said by the angry counsel for the Government, "MARSHALL has stepped in between Burr and death!" Though the disappointment was extreme; though starting

from the level of excited popular feeling, it made its way upward till it reached the dignity of grave dissatisfaction expressed in a President's message to Congress; though the trial led to legislative alteration of the law, the judge was unmoved by criticism, no matter from what quarter, and was content to await the judgment of posterity that never, in all the dark history of State trials, was the law, as then it stood and bound both parties, ever interpreted with more impartiality to the accuser and the accused.

Once only did MARSHALL enter the field of authorship. Washington had bequeathed all his papers, public and private, to his favorite nephew, who was one of MARSHALL'S associates on the bench. It was agreed between them that Judge Washington should contribute the material and that MARSHALL should prepare the biography. The bulk of papers was enor-

mous, and MARSHALL had just taken his seat on the bench and was deep in judicial work. The task was done under severe pressure, and ill health more than once interrupted it; but it was a labor of love, and his whole heart went out toward the subject. His political opponents feared that his strong convictions, which he never concealed, would now be turned to the account of his party, but the writer was as impartial as the judge. He recalled and perpetuated the intrigues and cabals, the disappointments and the griefs which, equally with the successes, were part of Washington's life; but full justice was done to those men whom both Washington and his biographer distrusted and opposed. It is agreed that for minuteness, impartiality, and accuracy, the history is exceeded by none. There were those who said the work was colorless, and others were severe by reason of the absolute

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truth which became their most absolute punishment, but no one's judgment was as severe as MARSHALL's own, save only as to its accuracy. Once only was this seriously questioned, and by one of the most distinguished of his opponents, and the result was complete vindication.

It is matter of history that upon Washington's death the House had resolved that a marble monument should be erected in the city of Washington, "so designed as to commemorate the great events of his military and political life." But, as MARSHALL tells us, "that those great events should be commemorated could not be pleasing to those who had condemned, and continued to condemn, the whole course of his administration." The resolution was postponed in the Senate and never passed, and almost the only tinge of bitterness in his pages is that those who possessed the ascendancy over the

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public sentiment employed their influence "to impress the idea that the only proper monument to a meritorious citizen was that which the people would erect in their affections." This he wrote in 1807 and repeated in 1832, and in the next year the people resolved that this should no longer be. The National Monument Association was then formed, and MARSHALL was its first president. Under its auspices, and with the aid, long after, of large appropriations by Congress, the gigantic column within our sight is slowly and gradually being reared.

Near the close of his life, when he was seventy-four years old, MARSHALL was chosen a member of the convention which met, in 1829, to revise the constitution of his native State. It was a remarkable body. The best men of the State were there. Some of them were among the best men in the country, for then, as

always, Virginia had been proud to rear and send forth men whose names were foremost in their country's history. Prominent among them were Madison, Monroe and MARSHALL. Even then, party spirit ran high. Two questions in particular, the basis of representation and the tenure of judicial office, distracted the convention as they had distracted the people. On both these questions MARSHALL spoke with his accustomed dignity and not less than his accustomed force, and his words were listened to with reverent respect. Upon the subject of judicial tenure he spoke from his very heart, "with the fervor and almost the authority of an apostle." He knew, better than any, how a judge, standing between the powerful and the powerless, was bound to deal justice to both, and that to this end his own position should be beyond the reach of anything mortal. "The judicial department," said

he, "comes home in its effects to every man's fireside; it passes on his property, his reputation, his life, his all. Is it not to the last degree important that he should be rendered perfectly and completely independent, with nothing to control him but God and his conscience?" And his next words were fraught with the wisdom of past ages, let us hope not with prophetic foreboding: "I have always thought, from my earliest youth till now, that the greatest scourge an angry Heaven ever inflicted upon an ungrateful and a sinning people, was an ignorant, a corrupt, or a dependent judiciary."

Something has here been said of MARSHALL'S inner life in its earlier years, and no man's life was ever more dear to those around him than was his from its beginning to its close. His singleness and simplicity of character, his simplicity of living, his love for the young and respect

for the old, his deference to women, his courteous bearing, his tender charity, his reluctance to conceive offense and his readiness to forgive it, have become traditions from which in our memories of him we interweave all that we most look up to, with all that we take most nearly to our hearts.

As the evening of life cast its long shadows before him, the labor and sorrow that come with four-score years were not allowed to pass him by. Great physical suffering came to him; the hours not absorbed in work brought to him memories of her whose life had been one with his for fifty years. The "great simple heart, too brave to be ashamed of tears," was too brave not to confess that rarely did he go through a night without shedding them for her. No outward trace of this betrayed itself, but lest some part of it should, all unconsciously to himself, impair his mental force, he begged those

nearest to him to tell him in plain words when any signs of failing should appear. But the steady light within burned brightly to the last, however waning might be his mortal strength. He met his end, not at his home, but surrounded by those most dear to him. As it drew near, he wrote the simple inscription to be placed upon his grave. His parentage, his marriage, with his birth and death, were all he wished it to contain. And as the long summer day faded, the life of this great and good man went out, and in the words of his Church's liturgy, he was "gathered to his fathers, having the testimony of a good conscience, in the communion of the catholic Church, in the confidence of a certain faith, in the comfort of a reasonable, religious and holy hope, in favor with God, and in perfect charity with the world."

And for what in his life he did for us, let there be lasting memory. He and the

men of his time have passed away; other generations have succeeded them; other phases of our country's growth have come and gone; other trials, greater a hundred fold than he or they could possibly have imagined, have jeopardized the nation's life; but still that which they wrought remains to us, secured by the same means, enforced by the same authority, dearer far for all that is past, and holding together a great, a united and a happy people. And all largely because he whose figure is now before us has, above and beyond all others, taught the people of the United States, in words of absolute authority, what was the Constitution which they ordained, "in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquillity, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to themselves and their posterity."

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Wherefore, with all gratitude, with fitting ceremony and circumstance; in the presence of the highest in the land; in the presence of those who make, of those who execute, and of those who interpret the laws; in the presence of those descendants in whose veins flows MARSHALL'S blood, have the Bar and the Congress of the United States here set up this semblance of his living form, in perpetual memory of the honor, the reverence and the love which the people of his country bear to the great Chief Justice.

The ceremonies were concluded with a benediction by the Rev. Dr. J. G. Armstrong.

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
PHILADELPHIA BAR
IN REFERENCE TO
THE ERECTION
IN
THE CITY OF WASHINGTON
OF A
MONUMENT
TO
CHIEF JUSTICE MARSHALL.

1835—1882.

THE BAR OF PHILADELPHIA.

PROCEEDINGS, JULY 7, 1835, ON ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE
DEATH OF CHIEF JUSTICE MARSHALL.

At a meeting of the Bar of Philadelphia, held in the Circuit Court Room July 7, 1835, Mr. P. S. Duponceau was appointed Chairman and the Hon. Charles Smith Secretary. The following resolutions were offered by Mr. John Sergeant and unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the Bar of the City of Philadelphia participate in the grief which has been caused by the death of the late Chief Justice of the United States, JOHN MARSHALL, and desire to unite with their fellow citizens in expressing their deep-felt respect for the memory of that illustrious man.

Resolved, That while, in common with our fellow citizens, we mourn the great public loss which has been sustained, we feel it to be our privilege as members of a profession so highly honored by the character, talents and services of the deceased, and so long enlightened and directed upon the most momentous topics by his profound and patriotic mind, to be permitted in a special manner to acknowledge our obligations and express our reverence for the name of JOHN MARSHALL: Therefore,

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Resolved, That it be recommended to the Bar of the United States to co-operate in erecting a monument to his memory at some suitable place in the City of Washington.

Resolved, That

Mr. RAWLE,	Mr. H. J. WILLIAMS,
Mr. DUPONCEAU,	Mr. KANE,
Mr. SERGEANT,	Mr. J. M. READ,
Mr. BINNEY,	Mr. DUNLAP,
Mr. CHAUNCEY,	Mr. D. P. BROWN,
Mr. C. J. INGERSOLL,	Mr. NORRIS,
Mr. P. A. BROWNE,	Mr. W. M. MEREDITH,
Mr. PETERS,	Mr. JAS. C. BIDDLE,
Mr. J. S. SMITH,	Mr. CHESTER,
Mr. J. R. INGERSOLL,	Mr. GILPIN,
Mr. WM. SMITH,	Mr. CADWALADER,
Mr. PURDON,	Mr. C. INGERSOLL,
Mr. RANDALL,	Mr. W. T. SMITH,
Mr. W. RAWLE, Jr.,	Mr. W. B. REED, and
Mr. DALLAS,	Mr. M'CALL,

be a committee on the part of the Bar of Philadelphia to unite with their brethren in other parts of the State and Union in carrying the above resolution into effect.

Resolved, That the Bar of Philadelphia will wear crape on the left arm for thirty days, and, if consistent with the arrangements of the near friends of the deceased, will in a body accompany his remains to the place of embarkation for his native State.

Resolved, That Judge Baldwin, Mr. Peters, Mr. Sergeant, Mr. Rawle, jr., Mr. T. I. Wharton, and Mr. E. D. Ingraham be requested, on the part of the Bar, to accompany the remains of Chief Justice MARSHALL to the City of Richmond, and to attend the funeral there.

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Mr. E. C. Ingersoll then offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the Chairman and Secretary be a committee to communicate these proceedings and the condolence of the Bar to the family of the deceased.

Mr. Wharton and Mr. Peters moved that Mr. Sergeant be requested to deliver an eulogium upon the character of the late Chief Justice MARSHALL before this Bar at some future time, to be designated by himself.

Resolved, That the preceding resolutions be published in the several newspapers of the city.

MARSHALL MONUMENT.

At a meeting of the committee appointed by the Bar of Philadelphia on the 7th of July, 1835, held at the Law Library Room on the 31st of the same month,

Peter S. Duponceau, Esq., was appointed chairman, and James C. Biddle, Esq., secretary.

The following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved, That Messrs. Duponceau, Sergeant, Binney, Chauncey, and J. R. Ingersoll be a subcommittee whose duty it shall be—

1. To proceed immediately to collect subscriptions for the monument from the Bar of Philadelphia.
2. To cause subscriptions to be collected from the Bar of the other parts of Pennsylvania.
3. To promote subscriptions by the members of the Bar throughout the United States.

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4. To correspond with such committees and individuals and members of the profession throughout the United States as may be authorized or disposed to co-operate with us in the proposed object.

5. To confer, on the part of the Bar of Philadelphia, with such committees or individuals as may be appointed or authorized to confer with them, on the subject of their appointment or matters connected therewith.

6. To adopt such other measures as may seem to them expedient and proper for furthering the contemplated purpose.

Resolved, That desiring to make the subscription as extensive as possible, and to avoid inconvenience to those who may be willing to unite with them, it is the wish of the committee that individual subscriptions should be moderate, and that the required amount may be made up by the number of contributors, rather than by the magnitude of particular donations, so that the monument may truly be the work of the Bar of the United States, and an enduring evidence of their veneration for the memory of the illustrious deceased.

Resolved, That it is the desire of the Bar of Philadelphia that all who may contribute may have a voice in selecting the plan to be adopted, and at a suitable time arrangements will be made to give them an opportunity, by their delegates, to take a part in the selection.

Resolved, That before a plan can be adopted it is necessary to know the extent of the means that will be furnished, and therefore it is earnestly requested that subscriptions may be collected and forwarded with the utmost possible dispatch.

Resolved, That Samuel Jaudon, Esq., Cashier of the Bank of the United States, be the Treasurer of the MARSHALL Monument Fund, to whom all moneys collected are to be forwarded.

Resolved, That we sincerely hope that our brethren through-

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out the United States will immediately and actively exert themselves, within their respective spheres, to collect and forward subscriptions, in such a manner as may seem to them best.

Resolved, That the subcommittee be instructed to receive no subscription from any member of the Bar of Philadelphia exceeding ten dollars, and to inform the members of the Bar throughout the United States that this regulation has been adopted here.

Resolved, That the subcommittee be authorized to add to their number, provided the whole do not exceed nine, and to supply vacancies in their body.

Resolved, That the editors of the newspapers throughout the United States be requested to publish these proceedings.

PETER S. DUPONCEAU,

Chairman.

J. C. BIDDLE,

Secretary.

CIRCULAR

Issued by the Committee of the Bar of Philadelphia shortly after the death of Chief Justice Marshall.

MARSHALL MONUMENT.

PHILADELPHIA, 10th August, 1835.

SIR: The subject on which we have the honor of addressing you will, we are confident, require no apology on our part. It needs only to be mentioned to excite in you a feeling responsive to that with which we are impressed.

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The death of the late Chief Justice MARSHALL having taken place in our city, the Bar of Philadelphia lost no time in assembling in order to deliberate on the honors to be paid to the memory of the illustrious deceased. Among other things, it was "*Resolved*, That it be recommended to the Bar of the United States to co-operate in erecting a monument at some suitable place in the city of Washington"; and a committee of thirty members was appointed "to unite with their brethren in other parts of the State and Union to carry that resolution into effect."

Owing to the indisposition of the chairman of that committee, some delay occurred in calling it together. The same cause, however, continuing longer than was expected, the committee met on the 31st of last month, and passed the resolutions hereunto annexed, by which you will be informed of their general views, and of the authority under which we act.

The object of this letter is to solicit your earnest and active co-operation in this great design. We have reason to believe that the members of our profession throughout the Union are in general well disposed towards its execution. We have received offers of co-operation from different States, and from some of the most distant from us and from each other, as well by letters addressed to us by committees of the Bars of particular districts as by the publication of the proceedings of others in the newspapers. Our hopes of success are sanguine, and we trust will not be disappointed.

Among the questions which have been asked of us, inquiry has particularly been made as to what extent and in what mode it was proposed to raise funds for the contemplated purpose. As to the extent or amount of the funds to be raised, you will easily understand that it is a subject on which we cannot give a positive answer, as it will depend on the zeal, the activity, and the liberality of our brethren in the

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different parts of the United States. When we consider the number of the members of the Bar throughout the Union, and, still more, when we reflect on the strong feeling which they have always evinced for the honor of the profession and the glory of those who have contributed to its illustration, we cannot entertain the least doubt but that a sufficient sum may and will be raised to defray the expense of a monument worthy of ourselves and of the illustrious man whose name and fame it is intended to perpetuate; and in any event we cannot suppose but that enough will be collected for a monument which can never be humble when deriving its splendor from the name to which it will be attached. But it is our earnest wish that it may be such as to reflect honor on the Bar of the United States.

With regard to the mode of collecting funds, we have considered that all the members of our profession are not equally favored with the gifts of fortune; we have had particularly in view the younger members, the hopes of our country, whose zeal and ardor, we know, are not inferior to those of their senior brethren; therefore, in the subscriptions of our own State the general committee thought proper to recommend, and in our immediate district to establish, as far as could be done, a very moderate scale, by limiting the amount of each subscription so as not to exceed ten dollars, although a less sum will not be refused. In doing so, however, we have not meant to exclude individual liberality; it will be in the power of those who can afford and are willing to contribute beyond the amount stated to indulge their generous spirit, either individually or by some concert among themselves, transmitting the amount immediately to the general treasurer, who will be hereinafter mentioned; but the subscription is limited, as we have said, to ten dollars, a sum which we believe there will be but few incapable of contributing.

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This is the mode we have adopted for the Bar of our own city and county, leaving to other Bars to adopt such system as they may think proper. We have desired that the money should be paid at the time of subscribing, and so far this, our request, has been complied with. We are happy to inform you that the subscription here is going on in a manner quite commensurate with our expectations.

As soon as we shall have collected a sufficient sum to enable us to form a correct idea of the expense to which we may venture to go for carrying our design into execution, we shall lose no time, with the assent of the general committee, in preparing a suitable plan, and making the contemplated arrangements, to give to the contributors an opportunity, by their delegates, to take part in the selection.

Conceiving it necessary that the money to be raised should be kept together on the same spot, and placed in the hands of a person of acknowledged responsibility, we have thought that we could not do better than to appoint for our treasurer Samuel Jaudon, Esq., the cashier of the Bank of the United States, whose name and character are known throughout the Union. We hope that the moneys collected or otherwise contributed will be transmitted to him as soon as possible.

It may not be improper to add that the designation of those who are invited to contribute is to be understood in the most liberal sense, embracing all who have been of the profession, though now retired, or filling judicial stations, or engaged in other pursuits; nor do we wish to exclude prothonotaries, sheriffs, and other officers intimately connected with the judiciary department, and entitled to be considered as our associates. Should there be any who cannot conveniently subscribe, they may transmit their contributions to the treasurer before mentioned.

Thus, sir, we have stated to you the whole of our views,

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and have entered into details as far as we have thought we might do so with propriety. We now earnestly beg that you will use your utmost endeavors, and those of your friends, to promote the great object which is the occasion of this address to you. We hope and wish for the co-operation of every State, Territory and District, and of every county in the Union. Not being acquainted with all the gentlemen whose assistance may be essential, we have to request that you will communicate the substance of this letter, in such manner as you may deem best, to the members of the Bar of your State. If you should have any communications to make to us, please to direct them to William B. Reed, Esq., who acts as secretary to this committee. They shall be respectfully attended to.

We have the honor to be, with great respect, sir, your most obedient, humble servants,

PETER S. DUPONCEAU,
JOHN SERGEANT,
HORACE BINNEY,
CHARLES CHAUNCEY,
J. R. INGERSOLL,
THOMAS DUNLAP,
WILLIAM B. REED,
PETER McCALL,

Committee.

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List of subscriptions to the Marshall Monument Fund.

Pennsylvania - - - - -	\$1, 292
Richmond, Virginia - - - - -	215
Norfolk, Virginia - - - - -	80
New Hampshire - - - - -	60
Vermont - - - - -	20
Worcester, Massachusetts - - - - -	160
New Haven, Connecticut - - - - -	95
Utica, New York - - - - -	100
New York City - - - - -	10
Baltimore, Maryland - - - - -	10
Raleigh and Elizabeth City, North Carolina - - -	130
Charleston, South Carolina - - - - -	180
Augusta, Georgia - - - - -	110
Saint Louis, Missouri - - - - -	95
Total - - - - -	<hr/> 2, 557

PROCEEDINGS IN 1882.

*To the Honorable the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas, No.
1, of the County of Philadelphia:*

The petition of the undersigned sheweth as follows:

They are the sole survivors of certain members of the Bar of Philadelphia who, in the summer of the year 1835, subscribed certain amounts for the purpose of erecting, at some suitable place in the city of Washington, a monument in memory of JOHN MARSHALL, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, who had then just died in this city. The exhibits annexed hereto show particularly the proceedings which then took place, and the list of subscribers to

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the fund. It did not reach the sum of three thousand dollars, and the amount was entirely inadequate for the purpose desired.

It was, therefore, carefully invested and reinvested in the loan of the city of Philadelphia, at first in the names of "Horace Binney, Joseph R. Ingersoll, William B. Reed, Peter McCall, and Job R. Tyson, trustees of the MARSHALL Memorial Fund," and later in the names of "Horace Binney, William B. Reed, and Peter McCall, surviving trustees of the MARSHALL Memorial Fund." Of these the said Peter McCall was the survivor, and upon his death his executors, John and Richard M. Cadwalader, found among the assets of their testator the said certificates of loan, and cash being interest collected on said loan, the whole amounting in value to about twenty thousand dollars.

At the stated meeting of The Law Association of Philadelphia held on the 5th day of December, 1881, of which a copy of the proceedings is also annexed, a committee was appointed for the purpose of carrying out the objects for which the said fund was subscribed, consisting of

GEORGE SHARSWOOD,
WAYNE MACVEAGH,
JOHN CADWALADER,
WILLIAM WHITE WILTBANK,
CHARLES CHAUNCEY BINNEY ; as also
GEORGE W. BIDDLE, Chancellor, and
WILLIAM HENRY RAWLE, Vice-Chancellor,
Of the Law Association.

The undersigned show to the Court that they are interested in the proper application of the said fund, and pray the Court to appoint the said committee trustees thereof, and to authorize and empower them to receive the same from the said

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executors, or the said city, to give all proper acquittances and discharges therefor, and to apply the same to the purposes for which it was subscribed.

And they will ever pray, &c.

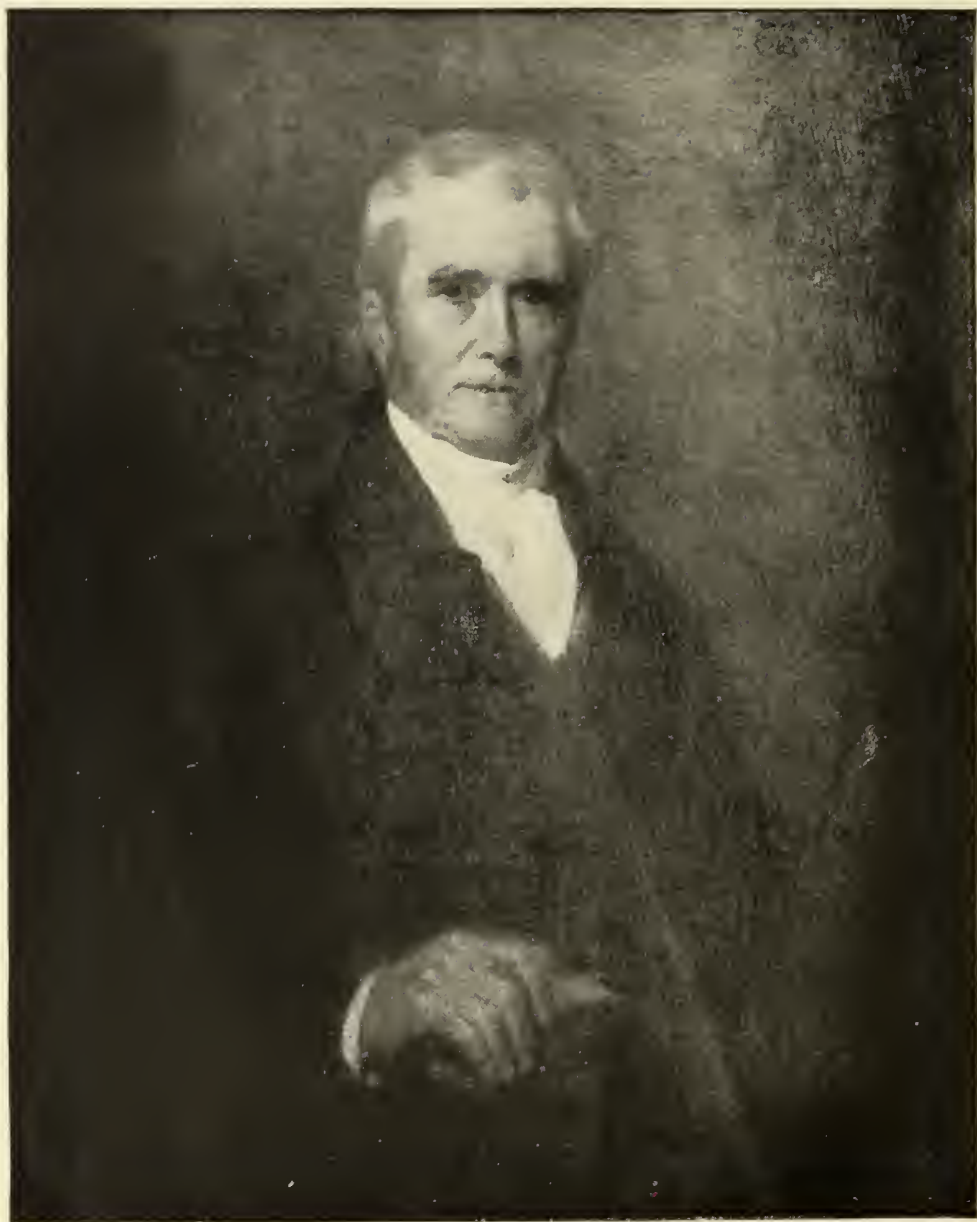
GEO. SHARSWOOD.
EDWARD OLMSTED.
C. INGERSOLL.
H. CRAMOND.
JOHN L. NEWBOLD.
WILLIAM DUANE.

Decree.

And now, this 28th day of January, A. D. 1882, the within petition having been read and filed, the Court do grant the prayer thereof, and do appoint the said George Sharswood, Wayne MacVeagh, John Cadwalader, William White Wiltbank, Charles Chauncey Binney, George W. Biddle and William Henry Rawle, Trustees of the said MARSHALL Memorial Fund, without security being required to be given by them, and do authorize and empower the said Trustees to receive the same from the executors of Peter McCall, deceased, or the city of Philadelphia, to give all proper acquittances and discharges therefor, and to apply the same to the purposes for which the said fund was subscribed as appearing in the exhibits annexed to the said petition, and according to their true intent and meaning.

And it is further ordered that after said trust shall have been carried out the said Trustees do make return to this Court of their action in the premises.

Per Curiam.



John Marshall

The Green Bag.

VOL. VIII. NO. 12.

BOSTON.

DECEMBER, 1896.

JOHN MARSHALL,

THIRD CHIEF JUSTICE OF THE UNITED STATES, AS SON, BROTHER, HUSBAND
AND FRIEND.¹

BY HIS GREAT-GRANDDAUGHTER, SALLIE E. MARSHALL HARDY.

"Humble mortals lay at the feet of their deities, the crowns they dare not place upon their heads."

—MADAME DE STAEL.

THE life of John Marshall, the great judge and statesman, is a part of the history of the country he so faithfully served and so dearly loved. It is something of his other life that I am going to tell, as I have learned it from people who knew and loved him, from letters written to those people and by them. From the one account we see the surpassing grandeur of his mind, from the other the rare perfection and deep sweetness of his character. The one gave him the admiration and respect of the world, the other won him the love of all who knew him well.

He was a gentle, loving, studious boy. To his mother and sisters he was especially kind and tender. His father said, "John never seriously displeased me in his life."

His father, Col. Thomas Marshall, was upright, consistent, and plain spoken, and very intolerant of the lack of these qualities in others. It is said that when his son was a candidate for the legislature from Fauquier County, one vote only was cast against him. Col. Marshall was very angry; he said, "That man could only have been prompted by malice and spite, and must be punished." He ascertained his name and the next time he met him gave him a sound thrashing.

John Marshall's mother was Mary Isham Keith, a daughter of Rev. James Keith, a Scotchman, and a clergyman of the Episcopal

Church. The Keiths are descended from Robert Keith, grand marshal of the Scottish army under Bruce. Rev. James Keith was a son of Bishop Keith. The Bishop was guardian of his nephew, afterwards the renowned Field-Marshal James Keith, Frederick the Great's valued lieutenant, who was slain while rallying his troops the night the king was surprised in his camp at Hochkirchen. He had been dangerously wounded early in the fight, but refused to quit the field. His bust stood side by side with those of Voltaire and the Marquis d'Argens, sacredly kept in Frederick's private sitting-room. Mr. Keith having been raised with his cousin, was devoted to him. After the earl had taken part in the rising in favor of the Pretender and had left for the Continent, he carried on a secret correspondence with his cousin. When this was discovered the Parson also had to leave the country. He settled in Virginia and married Mary Isham Randolph. There is a ghost-story belonging to the Keith family, as is common in all great families in Scotland, Ireland and England. Mr. Keith had a classmate at college named Frazier. When they parted, the one to go to America and the other to go as a soldier to India, they pledged themselves that the one who died first should appear to the other to tell him what came after death. So one day, years after, in Virginia, Mr. Frazier came to

¹ From Family Papers and Letters.

Mr. Keith in the garb of a soldier, and told him of the future state.

Mrs. Marshall was a woman of great force of character and strong religious faith. She was pleasing in mind, person and manners, and her son loved her with that chivalrous, tender devotion which made him gentle with all women throughout his life. The Judge told Judge Story a few weeks before his death; that he had never failed to repeat each night, through his long life, the little prayer, which begins, "Now I lay me down to sleep," that he had learned, when a baby, at his mother's knee.

The Chief Justice's mother and father are buried in the burial-ground known as "The Hill," outside of Washington, the first county seat of Mason County, Kentucky. The inscription on Col. Marshall's tomb is: "Thomas Marshall, to whom this memorial is inscribed, was born the 2d of April, 1730, intermarried with Mary Keith, in her 17th year, by whom he had fifteen children, who attained maturity, and after distinguishing himself by the performance of his duties as a husband, father, citizen and soldier, died on the 22d of June, 1802, aged 72 years, 2 months and 20 days." His will was executed June 20, 1798, in Woodford County, Kentucky, the county which he had caused to be named for his old commander in the Revolutionary War, Gen. Woodford. He left the Chief Justice an estate in Fauquier County, Virginia, called "The Oaks," and two tracts of land on the Licking River.

John Marshall "was taught nothing in the cradle he had to unlearn in riper years." Both father and mother were well fitted to train him, by precept and example, so day by day he learned that love and respect for the laws of God and man which in after years made him so faithfully obey them himself and so skillfully expound them to others.

The Chief Justice says, in his "Life of Washington": "A desire to know intimately those illustrious personages who have performed a conspicuous part in the great the-

ater of the world, is, perhaps, implanted in every human bosom. We delight to follow them through the various critical and perilous situations in which they may have been placed, to view them in the extremes of adverse and prosperous fortune, to trace their progress through all the difficulties they have surmounted, and to contemplate their whole conduct at a time when, the power and pomp of office having disappeared, it may be presented to us in the simple garb of truth."

Like most of the young men of that day, he served a term at surveying, and Miss Martineau says she was told he discovered that exquisitely beautiful spot, "Hawk's Nest," near Kanawha Falls in West Virginia, on the line of the Chesapeake and Ohio railroad, while surveying in the mountains.

It was in 1777 he first met Alexander Hamilton; from the first moment he admired him, and that admiration soon grew into love. It was one of the strongest evidences of the extreme justice of his character that he could so fairly and honestly sit in judgment upon Aaron Burr, the murderer of this cherished friend, that his detractors said he showed every partiality to Burr.

A sister of his thus describes a visit he made to his home near the close of the Revolutionary War: "He was then an officer in the American army, and he came home for a visit, accompanied by some of his brother officers, some young French gentlemen. When supper time arrived, mother had the meal prepared for them, and had made into bread a little flour, the last she had, which had been saved for such an occasion. The little ones cried for some, and brother John inquired into matters. He would eat no more of the bread which could not be shared with us. He was greatly distressed at the straits to which 'the fortunes of war' had reduced us, and mother had not intended him to know our condition."

On the 3d of January, 1783, he married Mary Willis Ambler. She was a lovely woman, and belonged to a family so noted for

their piety that the saying went, "as pious as an Ambler." She was a daughter of Col. Jaquelin Ambler, a descendant of the Huguenot Jaquelin who fled from France when the persecution of the Protestants began. Her mother was Rebecca Burwell, a famous beauty who discarded Thomas Jefferson to marry Col. Ambler. Miss Susan Randolph gave this account of Jefferson's courtship: "He is a boy, and is indisputably in love in this good year 1763, and he courts and sighs and tries to capture his pretty little sweetheart, but like his friend, George Washington, fails, the young lady will not be captured." It is a somewhat notable fact that Miss Cary, who refused George Washington, married Edward Ambler, brother of the man preferred to Jefferson. The story goes in the family that Washington, a very short time before his marriage to

she being so young and bashful that she said 'no' when she meant to say 'yes.' The mistake however was corrected, some time after, by the kind offices of a cousin, a Mr. Ambler. Seeing how things were, he sent to the disappointed lover a lock of her hair, cut without her knowledge. My father, supposing she had sent it, renewed his suit and they were married. They were a most devoted couple, living together forty-eight years. My mother died in 1831. My father, surviving her four years, and feeling her loss severely, proposed to move from Richmond to Fauquier, where his children and brother resided; with that purpose he was building an addition to his son James' (your grandfather) house, Leeds Manor, expecting his new residence to be ready for him that summer, from which he was cut off by his death in the year 1835, July 6th.



JOHN MARSHALL.

(At the age of 46. From a miniature.)

Mrs. Custis, wrote to Miss Cary, telling her it was not even then too late for her to change her mind, he would break off his engagement with the widow, but she again refused him.

Some years ago I wrote to my great-uncle, the late Hon. Edward C. Marshall, and asked him to write me some things of his father and mother. He was their youngest son. He replied as follows:—

"In the year 1783, after leaving the Revolutionary army, having served from the beginning to near the end of the war, father courted Miss Mary Ambler, a beautiful girl of Yorktown, Virginia, who was very young, being only fifteen years of age. This courtship upon the first trial, was unsuccessful,

It was an interesting exhibition of father's devotion to my mother's memory, who was buried near Richmond, Virginia, that he habitually walked to her grave every Sunday afternoon, a distance of one and a half miles. Upon one Sunday afternoon, suffering with the malady which led to his death, he was taking his accustomed walk, when he fell from exhaustion on the common outside the city and was unable to proceed. He was fortunately seen by two negro men (everybody knew him) and was carried in their arms to his home, whence he went to Philadelphia and placed himself under the care of the celebrated doctors Physick and Chapman. Without avail, how-

ever, as in a few weeks his body was brought to Richmond and buried by the side of his dear wife."

The marriage took place at the residence of the bride's father, who was at the time Treasurer of Virginia and the best loved man in the State. The house is a long frame building, an old-fashioned story and a half, with a Dutch roof, on the west side of Fifth, between Brook and Marshall Streets in Richmond.

The Chief Justice was for years a member of the Richmond Quoit Club. It was formed in 1788 and lasted for more than forty years. It had thirty members, and he was one of the most enthusiastic and by far the most popular. They met once in two weeks, from May until October, near Buchanan's Spring, a mile from the city. The members were of all professions, and the governor of Virginia had an invitation when he entered office.

The dinner was at half past twelve. The chief dish was a barbecued pig. The following recipe for the punch used I got from an old Virginia gentleman: lemons, brandy, rum, madeira, poured into a bowl one-third filled with ice (no water), and sweetened. This same recipe was used by the Richmond Light Infantry Blues, an organization that covered itself with glory during our Civil War. The Blues served this punch for years in a handsome India china bowl which held thirty-two gallons and which they greatly mourned when it was lost when

the Spotswood Hotel burned on Christmas Eve, 1870. For many years, Jasper Crouch, a noted colored man, made and served this punch; with an inimitable air he would go up to some honored guest on each occasion and say with a great flourish: "You is a judge; is de eroma of de proper flavor? Am it all smooth and savory?"

Good humor always prevailed at these meetings. The Constitution of the Club forbade the discussion of politics or religion, those topics so conducive of quarrels. Such was the partiality for the Chief Justice that it is said the greatest anxiety was felt for his success in the game by bystanders, and on one occasion an old Scotchman was called on to decide between his quoit and that of another member; after seemingly careful measurements he announced, "Mister Marshall has it a leattle," when it was clear that the con-



JOHN MARSHALL (from an old painting).

At about the age of 40.

trary was the case.

When he went as one of the envoys to France, with Pinckney and Gerry, President Adams wrote to Mr. Gerry: "Mr. Marshall is a plain man, very sensible, cautious, guarded, and learned in the law of nations. I think you will be pleased with him."

Upon his return from France the following note was received by him from Thomas Jefferson, who was at the time secretly trying to ruin him. In after years the Chief Justice frequently laughed over it, saying, "Mr. Jef-

person came very near writing me the truth, the added *un*, to lucky, policy alone demanded." The note is now the property of one of the Chief Justice's granddaughters.

"Thos. Jefferson presents his compliments to General Marshall. He had the honor of calling at his lodgings twice this morning, but was so ^{un} lucky as to find that he was out on both occasions. He wished to have expressed in person his

" MT. VERNON, 5th May, 1799.

DEAR SIR : — With infinite pleasure I received the news of your election. I am sorry to find the publication you allude to should have given you a moment's disquietude. I can assure you it made no impression on my mind, of the tendency apprehended by you."

Mr. Marshall was "after the most straight-sect," a Federalist of the Hamilton school,



CHIEF-JUSTICE MARSHALL'S HOUSE AT RICHMOND.

regret that a pre-engagement for to-day, which could not be dispensed with, would prevent him the satisfaction of dining in company with Genl. Marshall, and therefore begs leave to place here the expressions of that respect which in company with his fellow citizens he bears him.

"GENL. MARSHALL,
at Oeller's Hotel, June 23d, 1798."

The friendship between Washington and Marshall lasted until the General's death, and was deep and warm. The following is a note Mr. Marshall received from him after his election to Congress:—

and his dislike for Mr. Jefferson was intense, and lasted through life. They bitterly disagreed about a matter of vital interest to the University of Virginia, and from that time the Chief Justice never spoke to him, and he sent his five sons to northern colleges, and his grandsons were also sent north to be educated. Not until his great-grandsons were ready for college were any of his blood to be found among the students of that University.

In the year 1801, Princeton College conferred the degree of LL.D. on him. His

youngest son, the late Hon. Edward C. Marshall, wrote of his father's appointment as Chief Justice: "In the year 1825 I paid a visit to Mr. Adams, in Quincy. He gave me a most cordial welcome, and, grasping my hands, told me that his gift of John Marshall to the people of the United States was the proudest act of his life. Some years after, in conversation with my father, he told me that the appointment was a great surprise to him, but afforded him the highest gratification, as, with his tastes, he preferred to be Chief Justice to being President." My grandmother, his daughter-in-law, once said to me: "The descriptions of his dress are greatly exaggerated; he was regardless of style and fashions, but all those who knew him best and saw him daily testified to the extreme neatness of his attire."

One of my aunts, a granddaughter of his, wrote me: "You ask me to tell you something of your great-grandfather. From my father I learned veneration for him as a simple-hearted, good man; true, just and honorable. He knew, from others I would hear my grandfather was a great man. Of this my father never spoke. My mother has often told me that numerous of the anecdotes of him were without foundation, especially those indicating his slovenliness. He was extremely neat, but careless as to the style of his dress, and always looked old-fashioned, I suppose."

The gentleness of his manner, his unvarying politeness, attracted all. On one occasion he was riding down Main Street in Richmond, and, as was his custom when on horse-back, held in his hand a long, keen switch. A gentleman standing on the corner said to a friend: "What a long switch the Chief Justice carries." "Is it possible that is Judge Marshall?" replied the other. "I will ask him what he carries such a long switch for," and he actually stopped the old man to ask him the question. With the greatest politeness the Chief Justice answered: "To cut my horse with," and bowing,

rode on. The gentleman was so chagrined at his own impertinent conduct and the quiet, dignified politeness of the Judge that he wrote him an humble apology. The Chief Justice kept these switches, long, keen birch, in a certain place in his hall. He cut them himself at his farm, a few miles from the city.

His wife was for many years an invalid, and therefore saw very few people except the members of her immediate family, and her sisters; but for the loss of her health she would have been an ornament to society, for she was a beautiful, cultured woman. That she had a strong character is shown by the influence she had with her husband. He deeply felt that influence, and her death was a blow from which he never recovered. Of his virtues in private life too much cannot be said. From the day of the failure of his wife's health to the moment of her death, embracing a period of twenty years, he ceased not to lavish upon her the tenderest care and devoted attention which a kind and loving heart could prompt, or willing hands bestow. His manly strength supported her in her great suffering.

A nephew, the late Hon. Martin P. Marshall of Kentucky, who made his home for some time with him, spoke in terms of the warmest admiration. Daily intercourse with him had taught him to love and revere him. He dwelt particularly upon the simplicity and beauty of his private life; he said: "He was a model of what a husband should be to the wife of his bosom, in respect to the love which he should cherish for her, the tenderness with which he should watch over her and nurse her in failing health, and the fondness with which he should think of her when death has taken her from his arms."

He would frequently rise in the night to drive animals from the vicinity of his home, that by their noise were annoying his wife, who was very nervous and required absolute quiet, and he would not stop until he had driven them some distance.

My father, the late Dr. Burwell Marshall,

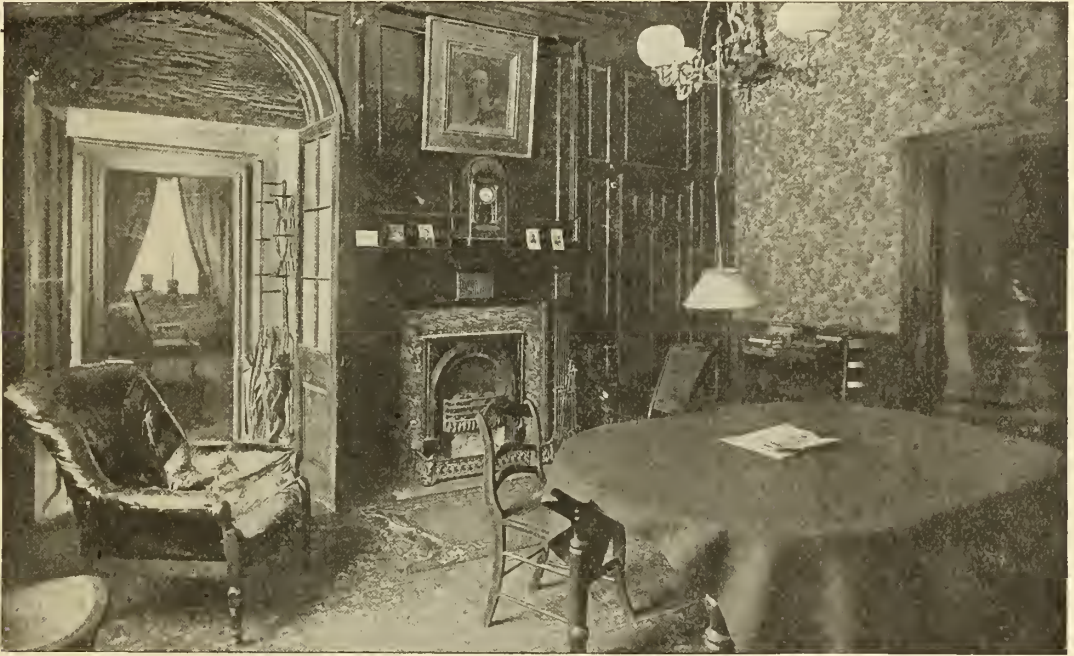
who was a favorite grandson and spent his Christmas holidays with him, told of his taking him every morning and evening to his grandmother's room to speak to her. Before they would start, each time, he would charge him to be very quiet, and then go in on tiptoe, with his finger on his lips.

In his home he was the perfect host, the most courteous and hospitable of men, and

could please or instruct them, and he commanded from them a feeling of loving reverence. The following is a letter to my grandfather, his son, the late Hon. James Keith Marshall of Fauquier County, Virginia: —

RICHMOND, Dec. 14, 1828.

MY DEAR SON: Your hogs arrived on Wednesday evening. I had twelve of them killed on Friday morning. They weighed 1891. The re-



ROOM IN HOUSE AT RICHMOND, USED BY CHIEF-JUSTICE MARSHALL AS A LIBRARY.

his house was always one of the most attractive in Virginia. Especially were young people to be found there. His gentleness invited confidence, and they confided to him their troubles. He was generous, kind and lenient with them. Time and again he was known to pay young men's debts and start them in life. The little hesitation in his speech is said to have lent it force and charm in private conversation.

He had six children: five sons and one daughter. He was a most devoted father, deeply interested in all that concerned his children. Nothing was left undone that

remaining thirteen will be killed as soon as the weather will permit, perhaps to-morrow, but the weather I fear is too hot. I fear you will be disappointed in the price. It is four dollars only. An immense quantity has come in from the West. I shall give you four and a quarter, and take myself what I cannot sell at that price. As I can know nothing about the title to the land in question, I presume your object is to make some inquiries respecting the characters of Mr. M. and Mr. A. Of Mr. A., I know nothing. Mr. M. is a lawyer of eminence, who was formerly a judge. He unfortunately engaged in some purchases in the mad times that have gone by, which wasted his fortune, in consequence of which he resigned

his seat on the bench and returned to the bar. He is a sensible man, and I should place confidence in what he says. Were it my business I should procure the information he asks and give him a moiety of the land if he will prosecute the claim at his own expense. I should have feared that the act of limitations was already a bar, but Mr. M.'s judgment may be relied on. Your mother's love to the family.

I am, my dear son,
Your affectionate father,
J. MARSHALL.

His dress was so simple and old-fashioned, and his manner so unaffected and plain, that a number of ludicrous mistakes occurred. One morning he went to call on a lady who had just married his brother, and who had never met him. She was expecting the butcher to call to look at a calf she wished to sell. When the servant told her a man wanted to see her at the door, the girl had not thought him worthy to enter the parlor, Mrs. Marshall, glancing around, also deceived by his plain clothes, concluded he was the butcher and ordered him to be taken to the stable to see the calf. He laughingly explained who he was, and the lady, very much confused and mortified, hastily invited him in.

He was devoted to farming, and understood it thoroughly. He had a farm near Richmond where he spent much time, and he could discourse as learnedly on pasture and tillage, crops and stock, as on the law. A cousin told me he met him hurrying out to his farm one morning. He had a large jug resting on the pommel of his saddle, and, having lost the cork, was holding his thumb in it for a stopper. It was whiskey for his hands. He was so energetic, that he hated to be waited upon. This same cousin, the late Dr. Fisher of Virginia, met him one morning during the term of his court in Richmond, hurrying back home. As he passed he said: "I left my spectacles, and am going back for them." The young man insisted upon going for them for him, but

he emphatically declined, saying: "No, thank you, I will go myself."

A nephew of his wife told me: "He called a day or two after the arrival of myself and bride in Richmond, with his usual promptness in extending courtesies to all. He made himself so agreeable that he completely won my wife's heart. A few days after he gave an elegant dinner in our honor, and drank this toast, standing, 'To all our sweethearts.'"

In a letter to a friend John Randolph once said: "You are right to like the Chief Justice's madeira, for it is very fine." This wine was some he brought from France in 1798. It was carefully preserved in the family and used at the weddings of descendants. After the war some of it was sold to buy bread for some members of the family. Some years ago, when I was visiting in Washington, a prominent and charming society woman said to me: "Come to me, Miss Marshall, and I will give you some of your great-grandfather's famous madeira. But," she quickly added, "perhaps you do not like my having it, and I am sorry I mentioned it." "Indeed," I replied, "you are quite mistaken, I am glad you bought it, for the money was very necessary to some people very dear to me, and I will come, with pleasure, to taste it." So it came, by the fortunes of war, that I drank my great-grandfather's wine in a stranger's house.

When absent from his wife, the Chief Justice wrote to her frequently, cheering her weary hours of pain with graphic and lively descriptions of the sayings and doings in the capital city. He always called his wife Polly.

The following is part of a letter to Mrs. Mary W. Marshall, Richmond, Va.:—

WASHINGTON, Feb., 1829.

Our sick judges have at length arrived and we are as busy as men can well be.

I do not walk so far as I formerly did, but I still keep up the pastime of walking in the morn-

ing. We dined on Friday last with the President and I sat between Mrs. Adams and the lady of a member of Congress whom I found quite agreeable as well as handsome. Mrs. Adams was as cheerful as if she was to continue in the great house for the ensuing four years. The President also is in good health and spirits. I perceive no difference in consequence of the turn the late election has taken. General Jackson is expected in the city within a fortnight and is to put up in this house. I shall, of course, wait on him. It is said he feels the loss of Mrs. Jackson very seriously. It would be strange if he did not. A man who at his age loses a good wife, loses a friend whose place cannot be supplied. I dine to-morrow with the British Minister and the next day again with the President. I have never before dined with the President twice during the same session of the Court. That on Friday was an official dinner. The invitation for Tuesday is not for all the other judges and I consider it a personal civility. Tell Mr. Call all the Secretaries are sick, and Mr. Clay among them. He took cold by attending the Colonization Society and has been indisposed ever since. The town, it is said, was never so full as at present. The expectation is that it will overflow on the 3d of March. The whole world, it is said, will be here. This however will present no temptation to you to come. I wish I could leave it all and come to you. How much more delightful would it be to sit by you than to witness all the pomp and parade of the inauguration."

He was always devoted to walking, but more especially before breakfast in the early morning. A venerable professor I met in

Washington told me that, when he was a boy, regularly every morning at seven o'clock, when he was on his way to school, he met the Chief Justice returning from a long walk. He walked rapidly always. Hon. Horace Binney says: "After doing my best one morning to overtake Chief-Justice Marshall, in his quick march to the Capitol, when he was nearer to eighty than seventy, I asked him to what cause in particular he attributed

that strong and quick step, and he replied that he thought it was most due to his commission in the army of the Revolution, in which he had been a regular foot practitioner for six years."

In 1831 he was attacked by stone in the bladder. A surgical operation was performed, and his physicians said his recovery from the operation was due "to his extraordinary self-possession, and to the calm and philosophical views which he took of his case."

Miss Harriet Martineau gives this description of a scene in the Supreme Court

room during the trial of the case between the State of Georgia and the Cherokee Indians, in 1831: "I have watched the assemblage when the Chief Justice was delivering a judgment. The three judges on either hand, gazing at him more like learners than associates; Webster standing firmly as a rock, his large, deep-set eyes wide awake, his lips compressed, and his whole countenance in that intent stillness which easily fixes the eye of the stranger. Clay



MARY WILLIS MARSHALL (née Ambler).
Wife of Chief-Justice Marshall.

leaning against the desk in an attitude whose grace contrasts strangely with the slovenly make of his dress, his snuff-box for the moment unopened in his hand, his small grey eye and placid half-smile conveying an expression of pleasure which redeemed his face from its usual unaccountable commonness. The Attorney-General (William Wirt), his fingers playing among his papers, his quick black eye, and the thin, tremulous lips for once fixed, his small face, pale with thought, contrasting remarkably with the other two. These men, absorbed in what they are listening to, thinking neither of themselves nor each other, while they are watched by the group of idlers and listeners, among them the newspaper corps, the dark Cherokee chiefs, the stragglers from the far West, the gay ladies in their waving plumes, and the members of either House that have stepped in to listen; all these I have seen constitute the silent assemblage, while the mild voice of the aged Chief Justice sounded through the Court."

She thus writes of the Chief Justice's opinion of slavery: "Chief-Justice Marshall, a Virginian, a slave-holder, and a member of the Colonization Society (though regarding this society as being merely a palliative, and slavery incurable but by convulsion), observed to a friend of mine, in the winter of 1834, that he was surprised at the British for supposing they could abolish slavery in their colonies by act of Parliament. He could not think that such economical institutions could be done away by legislative enactment. When it was done, the Chief Justice remarked on his having been mistaken, and that he rejoiced in it. He now saw hope for his beloved Virginia, which he had seen sinking lower and lower among the States. The cause, he said, was that work is disreputable in a country where a degraded class is held to enforced labor. He had seen all the young, the power of the State, who were not rich enough to re-

main at home in idleness, betaking themselves to other regions where they might work without disgrace. Now there was hope, for he considered that in this act of the British, the decree had gone forth against American slavery, and its doom was sealed."

Letter to his son, Hon. Edward C. Marshall: —

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15, 1832.

MY DEAR SON: Your letter of the 10th gave me great pleasure, because it assured me of the health of your family and the health of the other families in which I take so deep an interest. My own has improved. I strengthen considerably, and am able, without fatigue, to walk to court, a distance of two miles, and return to dinner. At first this exercise was attended with some difficulty, but I feel no inconvenience from it now. The sympathetic feeling to which you allude sustains no diminution, I fear it never will. I perceive no symptoms, and I trust I never shall, of returning disease. The question of Mr. Van Buren's nomination (minister to England) was not exempt from difficulty. Those who opposed him, I believe, thought conscientiously that his appointment ought not to be confirmed. They felt a great hostility to that gentleman from other causes than his letters to Mr. McLane. They believe him to have been at the bottom of a system which they condemn. Whether this conviction be well or ill founded, it is their conviction, at least I believe it is. In such a case it is extremely difficult, almost impossible, for any man to separate himself from his party.

This session of Congress is indeed peculiarly interesting. The discussion of the tariff and on the bank, especially, will, I believe, call forth an unusual display of talents. I have no hope that any accommodation can take place on the first question. The bitterness of party spirit on that subject threatens to continue unabated. There seems to be no prospect of allaying it. The two great objects in Virginia are internal improvements and our colored population. On the first, I despair. On the second, we might do much if our unfortunate political prejudices did not restrain us from asking the aid of the Federal government. As far as I can judge, that aid, if asked, would be freely and liberally given. The association you

speak of, if it could be made extensive, might be of great utility, and I would suggest the addition of a resolution not to bring any slave into the country.

I am, my dear son,
 Your affectionate father,
 J. MARSHALL.

Every year he paid a visit to his sons and his estates in Fauquier County. It was the custom during these visits, for one of his sons to give a dinner, to which all his relatives in the neighborhood, and there were a goodly number, were invited to meet him. On one of these occasions the dinner was given at Leeds Manor, the home of my grandfather, his son, James Keith Marshall. Just before the dinner hour there was a violent storm, and lightning struck the house. Several persons were injured, one, his granddaughter, Mary Harvie, the daughter of his only daughter, a girl of eighteen, so severely that she was paralyzed all her life, and a great sufferer. The old judge sat calm and cool during the terrible tumult, and was uninjured. With his usual thoughtfulness, as soon as possible he went to the room where my grandmother, his daughter-in-law, lay ill. She told him she had heard the noise, but did not know what had been the cause. In his calm and gentle way he sat down by her, and so entirely reassured her, that, not for several hours, when he came in himself to see her, completely restored, did she find out that

her husband had been among the injured.

He intended leaving Richmond to make his home at Leeds Manor. A little granddaughter sitting by his side one day, when he told her he was coming to live with them, said, with childish delight, for she was devoted to him: "Oh! grandpa, I am so glad you are coming to live with us, you shall have turkey and plum-cake every day for your dinner." "Ah! my dear little

girl," was his amused reply, "you will soon kill your poor old grandfather, if you keep him on such a diet as that."

Leeds Manor is at the foot of little Cobbler Mountain. In all the world there is no more beautiful spot.

My little son owns the following letter which the Chief Justice wrote to my father for his eleventh birthday: —

WASHINGTON,
 March 11, 1835.

MY DEAR GRANDSON:

I have received your letter of the 25th of February, and am not a little gratified at the

account you give of your standing in your class. It does you great honor as a student to remain so long at the head of it.

Cicero was an elegant scholar, and the greatest orator of his day. Besides his orations he has written several essays which have attracted much admiration.

I am very glad to hear of your progress in arithmetic, and to see that you improve in your handwriting. Boys are too apt to neglect their handwriting. It is a fault which, I am glad to believe, you will not commit. You have had a very severe winter, but that is not unfavorable to study.



MARY ISHAM MARSHALL (from an old painting).
 Mother of Chief-Justice Marshall.

If you have been unable to go to school, the time, I am sure, has not been lost. Nothing is more precious than time, especially to the young, and yet nothing slips from us less regarded or less valued.

I am, my dear grandson,
Your affectionate grandfather,
J. MARSHALL.

A number of my father's schoolmates asked him for his grandfather's autograph. The Chief Justice was in Washington at the time, but there were some of his books in the library at Leeds Manor, in which he had written his name. My father tore the pages from the books which bore his grandfather's name, and taking them back to college with him, proudly distributed them among the students. His father did not find it out for a long time, and by that time, I am sure my father regretted it as much as I did when I saw the mutilated books.

At the close of the session of 1835 the Chief Justice returned to Richmond, but was soon so seriously ill that he went to Philadelphia to consult the celebrated physicians for which that city was noted. His sons James and Jaquelin went with him, and during his last hours he was lovingly attended by them and by many friends, among whom was Justice Baldwin of the Supreme Court, who, it is said, "like all his associates, entertained for the Chief Justice a respect and affection amounting almost to reverence."

The Chief Justice died, Monday, July 6, 1835. It was in the evening, and he quietly and peacefully closed his eyes in this world with the blessed certainty of opening them in heaven.

So the righteous judge gave his last opinion and went to appear at that bar, the Judge of which "reserves to Himself the right to search the hearts of men," but it is hoped "the good he did may live after him" as long as the world lasts, and that the Court over which he presided for nearly half a century may remain unchanged, the admir-

ation of the world and the honor of the American people.

His body was taken to Richmond, accompanied by Gen. Scott, Judge Baldwin and a deputation of the Bar of Philadelphia, who on their arrival were received as guests of the city.

He is buried in Shockoe Hill Cemetery, near Richmond. The clerk of his court, when dying, requested that he might lie somewhere near him and that his tomb might be similar, only lower and shorter, not wishing it thought that even in death he would desire to place himself on a level with the man he so loved and revered.

His death produced profound grief throughout the country, but more especially in Richmond, where he was best known and loved. One of Virginia's greatest statesmen of these latter years, a man who worthily walked in the footsteps of those giants of old, the late Hon. James A. Seddon, the Confederate Secretary of War, wrote to me on this subject: "When I moved, a young aspirant in the legal profession, to Richmond, his lamented presence had departed, leaving to this city, where he was universally beloved and revered, the poignancy of a special bereavement. The memories and traditions of him, his mode of life, his manners and his traits of character, were fresh and vivid with all, and it seemed a solace and a satisfaction to nearly everyone to recall some manifestation of his virtues and amiability and to express their admiration and love. I was particularly struck with the fact that, while the highest possible deference was always manifested for his transcending abilities and elevation of character, on the part of none, not even the humblest, was displayed any trace of awe or fear, but on the contrary the feeling of love, of confidence in his goodness and due appreciation of all, seemed to have attached each one to him and given them, as it were, a common pride and satisfaction in the man and his greatness. His character must have been one of marked

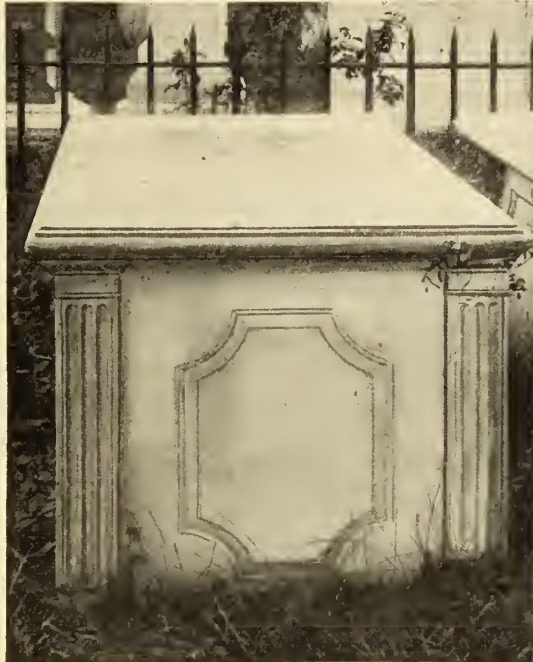
simplicity, genuine kindness and widespread sympathy, to have so impressed and won on the affection of all."

"I saw him in Washington, in the Supreme Court. My interest was mainly attracted and centered by the great Virginian, pre-eminent in his official rank and even more by acknowledged ability and influence. The impress of the whole scene and of the man are, to this distant hour, distinct and indelible on my memory. Would that I could present to you exactly the picture as it now stands visibly present to 'my mind's eye': you would have your great-grandfather's noble image in the dignity of his official robes and central position and with all the interesting surroundings of his brethren of the Bench, the illustrious Bar, and of the distinguished audience of strangers and public men. He presided in simple majesty, with perfect ease and naturalness of manner; without a trace of ostentation or self-consciousness of position. Amiability and firmness blending admirably in his expression, which alone seemed to guide and control, without need of utterance, the order and proceedings of the court. His head shapely and his brow full rather than lofty, surmounting well moulded, firm and harmonious, rather than sharp-cut or handsome features, with eyes somewhat under the brow, full and dark, clear with the light of quick apprehension, concentration of attention and deep reflection,

all admirably blent yet separately discernible. Vivid throughout the whole, indicative of a lofty, trained intellect in active exercise, taking in, noting, deciding or storing away for reflection the weighty arguments being submitted by the pleading counsel, perhaps Mr. Webster, Wirt or the after Chief-Justice Taney, or some other magnate of the bar. I thought him then, and with all my later

experience of courts and men, I think him now, the most perfect model and example of the upright judge, the high official, the intellectual sage and the noble gentleman."

There are many portraits and statues of him throughout the United States. His figure is on the grand Washington Monument in the Capitol Square, Richmond, Va., with the allegorical figure of Justice, and the inscription, "Great Bridge and Stony Point," two of the Revolutionary battles in which he fought. In the Westmoreland Club in Richmond



GRAVE OF CHIEF-JUSTICE MARSHALL.

there is a portrait, the property of the Virginia Historical Society. There are two portraits of him in the consultation room of the Supreme Court at Washington, one a beautiful, ideal picture by Peale, with "Justice" inscribed under it. Could a man have a greater, grander tribute than that? In his own person to personify justice. The other portrait is a rough affair, a poor copy of a portrait owned by one of his descendants. It was presented to the Court by Chief-Justice Chase.

There is a bust of him in the Supreme Court room. The State of Virginia owns a portrait, as does also Kentucky; the latter is kept at Frankfort, the capital. A good likeness belongs to the Washington and Lee University, and a very handsome one to the Bar Association of New York. It was the gift of one of New York's prominent lawyers, and hangs in their rooms. There are many others, too numerous to mention.

The fund for the beautiful monument at

the entrance to the Capitol grounds at Washington City was begun by the Bar of Philadelphia soon after his death. The statue was made by William Story, so the son perpetuated in bronze the features of the man his father loved. The Bar Association of Philadelphia owns a portrait painted by Inman.

He was the first President of the Washington Monument Society, and a member of the Society of the Cincinnati.

FORGIVENESS.

YOUR clemency has taught us to believe
 It wise, as well as virtuous, to forgive.
 And now the most offended shall proceed
 In great forgiving, till no laws we need.
 For law's slow progresses would quickly end,
 Could we forgive as fast as men offend.
 Revenge of past offenses is the cause
 Why peaceful minds consented to have laws:
 Yet plaintiffs and defendants much mistake
 Their cure, and their diseases lasting make;
 For to be reconciled, and to comply,
 Would prove their cheap and shortest remedy:
 The length and charge of law vex all that sue;
 Laws punish many, reconcile but few.

— DAVENANT.





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